UKRAINIAN NEWS
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Prime Minister Stephen Harper accepts the award from UCC National President Paul Grod.

UCC awards Shevchenko medal to Harper

Compiled by Marco Levytsky
With files from Walter Derzko, UCC National and the Prime Minister's Office

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress awarded the highest honour that it can bestow upon Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper at a Tribute dinner attended by almost 600 members of the Ukrainian Canadian community Oct. 14.

"Today we want to thank and recognize Prime Minister Stephen Harper for his dedication to public service, for his leadership and in particular to the outstanding contribution he has made towards the development of the Ukrainian Canadian community," stated UCC National President Paul Grod." "Prime Minister, you can be sure that the Ukrainian Canadian community, as a founding people of Canada, will continue to contribute to the development and promotion of Canadian values both at home and abroad. Your leadership in the area of human rights protection has been an example to other world leaders and we hope that you will maintain Canada's commitment to human rights, democratic development, and free and fair elections in Ukraine."

"I am honoured to receive this prestigious award that recognizes the significant efforts our Government has made to address the needs and interests of our vibrant Ukrainian-Canadian community and to strengthen our ties with Ukraine," said the Prime Minister. "Our Government will continue to acknowledge and embrace the contributions of Ukrainians, their struggles for independence and their contributions to Canadian society."

He said the Government has taken decisive action for this community, including passing a bill in 2008 recognizing the Holodomor as an act of genocide, upgrading community centres and social housing in Ukrainian-Canadian communities, and recognizing the internment of Ukrainian-Canadians and others during the First World War. The Government will also continue to strengthen bilateral ties with

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PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Zaporozhtsi from Donbas

Boenarts showcased a wide-ranging of Ukrainian music and dance at the "Talent of Ukraine" performance at the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton, Oct. 14, headlined by the "Donbas" Honoured Academic Song and Dance Company of Ukraine. Edmonton was the third stop on a 12-city Canadian tour, Oct. 11 – 25, that also included Vancouver, Vernon, Airdrie-Calgary, Regina, Saskatoon, Yorkton, Winnipeg, Thunder Bay, Mississauga-Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. Pictured above: Donbas perform a Zaporizhian number. For more, see page 8 of this issue.

Canada's Parliament condemns Tymoshenko verdict

(UkrNews/UCC National)—The House of Commons concluded at 10:30 p.m. Oct. 18, a rare four hour emergency debate on the decline in the state of democracy in Ukraine where all political parties unanimously condemned the politically motivated selective justice and sentencing in the case of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

"In a session attended by Canada's Foreign Minister, John Baird; the Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Peter Van Loan; the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Jason Kenney, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Minister, Bob Dechert, the Chair of the Canada Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group, Robert Sopuck, senior opposition MPs Peggy Nash, and former Justice Minister Irwin Cotler and many dozens of other individual members of Parliament, the message from Canada was clear," stated UCC's Executive Director Taras Zalusky who attended the debate. "If Ukraine wants to be considered a democratic country among the nations of the world, Ukraine must put an end to politically motivated show trials and reprisals against opposition politicians."

Other speakers included Ted Opitz (Etobicoke Centre, CPC), Kevin Lamoureux (Winnipeg North, Lib.), Hélène Laverdière (Laurier-Sainte-Marie, NDP), Peter Goldring (Edmonton East, CPC), Linda Duncan (Edmonton—Strathcona, NDP), Jim Karygiannis (Scarborough—Agincourt, Lib.), Anne-Marie Day (Charlesbourg—Haute-Saint-Charles, NDP), Alexandrine Latendresse (Louis-Saint-Laurent, NDP), Leon Benoit (Vegreville—Wainwright, CPC), Alain Giguère (Marc-Aurèle-Fortin, NDP), Bernard Trottier (Etobicoke—Lakeshore, CPC), Wladyslaw Lizon (Mississauga East—Cooksville, CPC), Jinny Jogindera Sims (Newton—North Delta, NDP), Alex Atamanenko (British Columbia Southern Interior, NDP), Ed Komarnicki (Souris—Moose Mountain, CPC),. Mark Warawa (Langley, CPC), Laurie Hawn (Edmonton Centre, CPC): Stella Ambler (Mississauga South, CPC) and Blaine Calkins (Wetaskiwin, CPC).

"The House of Commons unanimously expressed its concerns regarding the ongoing erosion of democracy in Ukraine, including most recently the politically motivated and deliberate prosecution and conviction of former prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko by Ukrainian authorities among other opposition leaders," stated UCC National President Paul Grod.

"I want to thank the Members of Parliament who took part in this debate from all political parties for showing their deep concern over the erosion of democracy and the rule of law in Ukraine," continued Grod. "Canada's House of Commons in one voice tonight expressed support for continued engagement of Ukraine and its continued democratic development"

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Мітинг у Києві з нагоди Міжнародного дня боротьби з бідністю, 17 жовтня 2011 року

Профспілки протестують проти бідності й погрожують страйком

Анастасія Москвичова, *Радіо Свобода*

Українські профспілки вийшли на акцію протесту до Дня боротьби з бідністю, 17 жовтня. Понад півтори тисячі демонстрантів із різних регіонів України зібралися у понеділок на Майдані Незалежності і рушили колоною до Кабміну. Профспілчани ухвалили резолюцію, у якій вимагають від депутатів, урядовців і Президента забезпечити в Україні гідну оплату праці і пенсії. У разі невиконання вимог профспілки погрожують масовими акціями протесту з вимогою відставки керівництва держави.

Олександр Сорока з профспілки авіабудівників прийшов на Майдан, щоб показати владі, що люди втомилися жити в нинішніх умовах.

«Ціни ростуть постійно, а людям, що працюють «по-білому», платять усі податки, дуже тяжко, особливо молодим, – говорить чоловік. – Двадцять відсотків треба віддати як податок. Плюс – комуналка постійно зростає, а це ніяк не компенсується».

На акцію за подолання бідності вийшли представники профспілок різних регіонів України. Вони вимагали підвищити державні соціальні гарантії, зокрема виплати зарплати і пенсій, а також припинити підвищення цін і тарифів на вимогу МВФ. За даними Федерації профспілок, яка організовувала акцію, на сьогодні зарплату заборгували 130 000 працівників.

У випадку невиконання цих вимог профспілки погрожують загальноукраїнським страйком. За словами очільника Федерації депутата-регіонала Василя Хари, робітники готові до рішучих дій.

«Ми змушені захищати свої права не за столом переговорів, як це робиться у цивілізованому світі і як ми намагалися це робити досить тривалий час, а в судах і на вулицях», – заявив Хара на мітингу в Києві.

Загалом сьогодні суспільство налаштоване на протести, однак чи відбудуться вони насправді, прогнозувати складно: у кризовий 2008-й опитування показували так само високу суспільну тривожність, однак революцій не відбулося, зазначає Радіо Свобода Михайло Міщенко, заступник директора соціологічної служби Центру Разумкова. Однак, за його словами, люди, що визнають себе злиденними, не є соціально активними, тому навряд чи вийдуть на вулиці.

«Тут має значення, може, не настільки абсолютний показник бідності, скільки рівень соціальних вимог і запитів. В економічному відношенні більш активні не ті, у кого рівень життя нижчий, а у кого вищий рівень запитів», – вважає соціолог.

Загалом, як зазначив Михайло Міщенко, показники задоволеності життям (на що вистачає власних доходів), відповідно до опитувань Центру Разумкова, сьогодні нижчі, ніж до світової економічної кризи 2008 року, однак за період діяльності нинішньої влади ці показники значно не змінилися. Серед злиденних переважають жінки і пенсіонери.

Романа Ландіка звільнили з-під варти?

Андрій Кузнецов, *Радіо Свобода*

Депутат Луганської міськради Роман Ландік, якого звинувачують у побиті дівчини, не знаходиться у СІЗО, а спокійно розгулює по Луганську. Таку інформацію розповсюдив голова правління правозахисного руху «Поступ», луганський правозахисник Костянтин Реуцький. Він стверджує, що бачив його на власні очі. Правоохоронці такий факт заперечують.

Правозахисник Костянтин Реуцький запевняє, що 14 жовтня, близько шостої години вечора, у центрі Луганська, бачив Ландіка. Підозрюваного, за словами Реуцького, міліція не супроводжувала. Правозахисник запевняє Радіо Свобода, що знайомий зі скандальним депутатом і помилитися навряд чи міг.

«Він без супроводу направлявся в обласну прокуратуру ввечері, що мене дуже здивувало, – розповідає Реуцький. – Він був одягнутий в чорний, досить якісний костюм. Не схоже, що він направлявся туди зі слідчого ізолятору»

Тим часом, в обласній міліції стверджують, що Рома Ландік продовжує перебувати у слідчому ізоляторі. Коментуючи слова Костянтина Реуцького, начальник центру громадських зв'язків обласного управління МВС Тетяна Погукай в коментарі «Інтерфакс-Україна» заявила, що «такого просто не може бути».

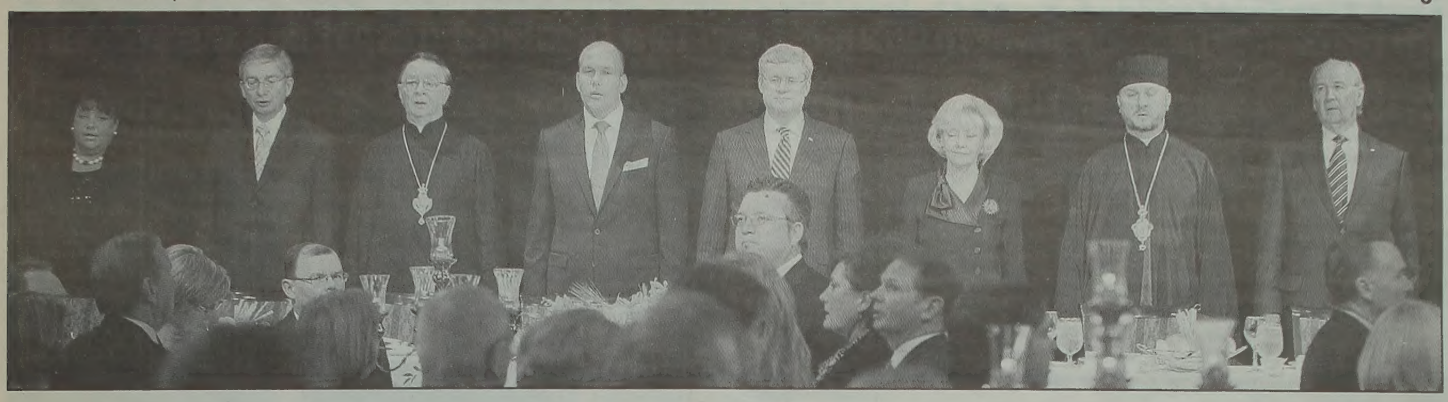
У свою чергу керівник прес-служби обласного управління з питань виконання покарань Юлія Однобокова повідомила Радіо Свобода, що Ландік ніколи не утримувався в слідчому ізоляторі Луганська, а перебував в ізоляторі тимчасового утримання Ленінського районного відділку міліції.

«Я не знаю, де зараз знаходиться Роман Ландік, але утримувався він в ізоляторі тимчасового утримання при Ленінському РВВС, а далі його доля мені не відома», – каже Юлія Однобокова.

Між тим, раніше мас-медіа повідомляли, що після того, як суд дав санкцію на арешт, Романа Ландіка відправили саме до СІЗО. Правозахисники планують направити в прокуратуру та міліцію офіційний запит, з метою дізнатися, де зараз знаходиться Роман Ландік і чи утримується він під вартою.

«Якщо це справді був Роман Ландік, то це говорить про те, що правосуддя у нас дуже вибіркове і закон не для всіх. Ми закликаємо громадськість до посилення вже громадського контролю», – зазначає Костянтин Реуцький.

Депутат міськради Роман Ландік належить до впливової у Луганську родини. Він прославився після того як в інтернет потрапило відео з камер спостереження одного з луганських ресторанів. На відео чоловік, дуже схожий на Романа Ландіка, жорстоко б'є дівчину. Після цього проти депутата прокуратура порушила карну справу, а самого Ландіка оголосили у розшук. Згодом Романа затримали російські правоохоронці у Краснодарському краї Росії. У середині вересня депутата доставили у Луганськ і суд виніс рішення утримувати його під вартою.



Head table, Left to Right: Lida Kulish (Vice President, UCC Toronto), Eugene Czolij, President (Ukrainian World Congress), Most Rev. Stephen Chmilar D. D. (The Ukr. Catholic Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada), Paul Grod, President (UCC National) , Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Senator Raynell Andreychuk, His Grace Bishop Andriy (Bohdan Peshko) Acting-Bishop of the Eastern Eparchy, James C. Temerty, Northland Power President.

UCC awards Shevchenko medal to Harper

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Ukraine and help in the building of a democratic, independent and prosperous society.

Harper also said that he has written directly to Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych to let him know that he is deeply concerned that the conduct of the trial of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko "does not reflect accepted norms of due process or fairness."

"We all know that a vigorous political opposition and judicial independence are vital to building a democratic and prosperous Ukraine.

"Canada will support Ukraine whenever it moves towards freedom, democracy and justice.

"However, our foreign policy is rooted in principle, and in the defence of freedom," he added

Harper reiterated Foreign Minister Foreign Minister John Baird's Oct. 11 statement that the conviction and sentencing of Tymoshenko "may have serious consequences for our bilateral relationship."

"The Ukrainian people can count on Canada to stand-up for their liberty.

"Canada is always ready to help …

"To help democratic institutions take root, in Ukraine and around the world," he said.

First presented in 1961, the Taras Shevchenko Medal is the highest form of recognition that can be granted by the UCC in recognition of an outstanding national contribution to the development of the Ukrainian Canadian community

"Over the past 12 decades Ukrainian Canadians have succeeded in enshrining multiculturalism in the Canadian Constitution, developing human rights law in Canada, and establishing progressive immigration policies, by working with government. More recently, we have worked to recognize injustices such as the genocide of the Ukrainian people — the Holodomor and the internment of Ukrainians and other Eastern Europeans during Canada's First National Internment Operations. We are committed to ensuring that the lessons of these tragic human rights abuses are appropriately represented in the Canadian Museum for Human Rights," concluded Grod.

The tribute dinner, which was initially scheduled for last spring had to be delayed when the government dismissed parliament and called for a new election. 530 people attended the successful sold out event, thanks to the hard work of the organizing tribute committee, which was headed by the two co-chairs Lydia Falcomer and Renata Roman. Members included Fedir Danylak, Anna Harasym, Sonia Holiad, Olia Kalymon, Nadia Prokopiw, Peter Schturyn, Markian Shwec, and Lesya Winnicki.

The evening started with a procession of the head table guests, who were accompanied by the Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and greeted with the traditional bread and salt. The distinguished head table included Lidia Kulish, Paul Grod, Eugene Czolij, Bishop Stephan Chmilar and Bishop Andriy, Ivan Fecan, Jim Temerty, Raynell Andreychuk and Stephan Harper. After the singing of the Ukrainian and Canadian National Anthems by Serhiy Danko and accompanied by Michael Romaniuk, the evening was directed by Ivan Fecan, the masters of ceremonies, who skilfully navigated the audience though the entire evening and reading the opening and closing remarks. Senator Raynell Andreychuk introduced the Prime Minister, reminding the audience of his efforts and that Harper was only the second sitting Prime Minister to receive the Shevchenko Medal after Prime Minister John Diefenbaker.

After dinner, Grod and the Prime Minister presented the UCC Youth Leadership Awards of Excellence to three deserving recipients: Kristin Glover of Toronto for her work in reviving the Ukrainian National Youth Federation of Canada and with "Help US Help the Children."; Christina Sawchyn from Montreal for her leadership work with Plast Canada and Andrew Woloslawsky from Toronto for his ongoing work with Plast Canada and for his card game: "Za Voliu!" (For Freedom!)

The sponsors for the evening included: Buduchnist Credit Union, Caravan Logistics Inc., The Chabursky Family, Consultec, Hrycyna Pothemont Hamivka, Barristers and Solicitors, Northland Power, Rodan Energy Solutions, Ukrainian Credit Union, Limited and Eugene, Luba Zarazka and Family, Aerosvit Ukrainian Airlines, Skylink Travel Group and the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce. Media sponsorship was provided by KONTAKT and Svitohlad television programs.

Canada's Parliament condemns Tymoshenko verdict

Cont. from P. 1

"Despite numerous pronouncements by the Government of Ukraine to the contrary, there is abundant and growing evidence that Ukraine is reverting to an authoritarian model of governance. This has negative implications for the stability of the entire region, and there is a growing threat of a physical confrontation between civil society and Ukrainian authorities as the government moves to systematically reverse the democratic gains made by the Orange Revolution," states the UCC in a news release.

The UCC has also proposed a Ukraine Strategy for the Government of Canada, which includes the following points:

• Engagement - Any actions by the Government of Canada must not result in the isolation of Ukraine. Otherwise, Ukraine will slip back into Russia's sphere of influence thereby losing its sovereignty. The strategy should be two-pronged: i) government to government pressure; and ii) support for civil society.

• Review of Priorities for Canada-Ukraine Relations (RoadMap) signed 2 years ago between Canada and Ukraine.

•Refocus CIDA strategy - CIDA should focus on supporting Ukrainian NGOs that establish and strengthen political and civic organizations, safeguard elections, and promote citizen participation, openness and accountability in government.

• Robust election monitoring. The October 2012 Parliamentary elections in Ukraine will be the only meaningful opportunity to balance power as today both the Parliament and Judiciary are controlled by the President. Sending election observers on the day of the elections, although necessary is not enough. Long-term monitoring and reporting are critical. There is a serious concern with the upcoming parliamentary elections. How can they be declared free and fair if the leaders of two opposition parties, including the leader of the official opposition are not able to participate?

• Support for independent media - today there are significant threats to media freedoms.

• Reinstate Radio Canada International Ukraine Programming - ensure Canadian values are broadcast in Ukraine.

The UCC also says there is a need to ensure that Canada Ukraine FTA includes provisions guaranteeing human rights protection as a precondition to concluding such an agreement. And "we further believe that Canada needs to address these concerns in the context of the bilateral agreement it signed with Ukraine less than 2 years ago by conducting a comprehensive review of the Road Map of Priorities for Canada-Ukraine Relations.

Several NDP members asked Government members whether they would support provisions guaranteeing human rights in an FTA, but could not pin them down.

"A thriving trading relationship is probably the best way to promote democracy and human rights. Canada will, and should, express outrage at what has been happening in Ukraine, but at the same time Canada should help move Ukraine toward a stronger and better relationship with the western world. It has to be a two-pronged approach where we express our concern for what is happening to Yulia Tymoshenko and at the same time increase our trading relationship with Ukraine," said Sopuck, responding to a question from Nash.

"There are many scenarios that we could engage in. Perhaps the trade agreements could have wording, but it would be difficult to have those words have full and defined meanings. I don't know; I have not been involved before in trade agreement writing," said Goldring in response to a similar question from Nash.

At one point Goldring said "it seems to me that there is a fixation on trade agreements, then asked NDP members whether they would vote for a free trade agreement if the government did put in free trade agreements that democracy and human rights issues would be respected,

"I do not have any kind of obsession with free trade agreements, just so everybody knows. I can think of many other things with which I would rather have obsessions.

"Right now, one of the tools that Canada has in its pocket is the free trade negotiations. From what I am reading, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress is looking to have those rights enshrined. It is not just having the words there. It is actually putting the words into practice," replied Jogindera Sims

Several members made interjections in Ukrainian. Both Opitz and Nash, who represent ridings with a large Ukrainian population declared "Slava Ukrayini! Slava Kanadi" (Glory to Ukraine! Glory to Canada)".

But the most surprising interjection came from Latendresse, who represents a Quebec City constituency with virtually no Ukrainian Canadian population, but who visited Ukraine during a student exchange in Moscow three years ago.

She quoted Tymoshenko's slogan of "razon peremozhemo" (together we will conquer), referred to Canada as "Mala Ukrayina" (Little Ukraine) due to the settlement of the Prairies and also opened with the statement `Ya liubliu Ukrayinu`(I love Ukraine).

"It is a magnificent country with extraordinary people. The people are talented and courageous. The history of Ukraine is a series of incredible, tragic and grand events. It is a country of great poets, courageous warriors, tiny grandmothers who gather mushrooms, and dedicated workers who are proud of their country. When the train makes its way through the hills that are yellow with sunflowers, a sense of happiness falls on the traveller, like that experienced in childhood. Those who come into contact with Ukraine fall under its spell forever.," she said.

A full transcript of the debate is available at www.parl.gc.ca.

See also Page 6

«Присипляння людей веде до диктатури» – політолог

Галина Терещук, *Радіо Свобода*

«Україна проти Януковича» – така акція тривала в усіх регіонах. Протягом вихідних 15-16 жовтня активісти «Фронту змін» зібрали понад 11 тисяч підписів на Львівщині. Не обійшлось і без конфліктів. Так у Керчі правоохоронці затримали двох прихильників «Фронту змін», які розповідали людям про акцію «Україна проти Януковича, а на Львівщині у Червонограді невідомі особи запросили на співбесіду двох активісток, які агітували мешканців висловити власну позицію.

Чимало людей, переважно віком від 25 до 45 років, бояться вказувати свої справжні прізвища, підписуючись під зверненням за відставку Президента Віктора Януковича. Особливо це помітно у маленьких містечках. І таких, за даними ініціаторів акції, від 13 до 17%. Найактивнішими є молодь і люди після 50 років.

За словами голови Львівського обласного осередку «Фронту змін» Степана Кубіва, своєю акцією вони хочуть дати можливість людям висловити власну думку, продемонструвати владі, що та працює проти людей, бо закриває школи, виплачує мізерні пенсії, забирає землю, знищує демократію, позбавляє майбутнього.

Збір підписів проти Віктора Януковича не матиме ніяких юридичних наслідків, і це розуміють організатори акції, каже Кубів. За його словами, метою акції є показати владі оцінку якості життя людини, це реальний документ. Наразі політики ще не визначились із формою передачі підписів Президентові.

З вимогою зупинити політичні переслідування, декриміналізувати статтю 365 Кримінального кодексу – таке звернення до Президента у вівторок на сесії Львівської обласної ради планують ухвалити депутати.

Тим часом, політолог Юрій Шведа вважає, що місцеві політики обирають неефективні форми боротьби з чинною владою і радше вдаються до політичного піару.

«Організовувати збір підписів, коли у нас гірша ситуація і рівень життя, ніж в американців чи європейців, то це виглядає акцією, яка мала б суспільне невдоволення повести у якесь вигідне суспільне рішення. Немає контакту між політиком і населенням. Людей на вулицю виведуть соціально-економічні проблеми, і це вже тліє», – каже політолог.

Сьогодні мешканці не лише Галичини, а й усіх українських регіонів розчаровані в політиках і владі, а тому люди залишаються цілковито байдужими до будь-яких ініціатив політичних партій, незважаючи на колір. Вони не вірять ніяким обіцянкам, наголосив у коментарі Радіо Свобода аналітик Василь Расевич.

«Дрімають усі, а це втома від розчарувань, втома від помаранчевих політиків, які все звели нанівець. Люди просто не бачать, за що мають боротись і чого виходити на вулиці. Присипляння людей є дуже небезпечне, бо веде до диктатури», – вважає Расевич.

Останніми роками на заклики всіх політичних сил Львівщини прийти на мітинги чи підтримати якийсь протест відгукуються кілька сотень людей, переважно старшого віку. Більшість переймається питанням виживання власної родини у час постійного зростання цін на продукти та послуги. Людей найбільше хвилює відсутність роботи або ж малі зарплати.

Як стахановці пам'ятник Тарасу Шевченкові проґавили

Андрій Кузнецов,
Радіо Свобода

Низка політичних та громадських організацій вимагають знайти та покарати злочинців, які днями у Стаханові вкрали пам'ятник Тарасу Шевченкові. Руйнування пам'ятника низають спланованою антиукраїнською акцією. Більше того, представники Конгресу українських націоналістів заявили, що починають власне розслідування справи і запевняють, що покарання злочинцям не уникнути. Натомість у стахановській мерії закликають не поспішати з висновками і обіцяють встановити новий пам'ятник.

Погруддя Шевченка з постаменту зникло у ніч із 20 на 21 жовтня. Однак широкого розголосу інцидент набув лише через кілька днів. Члени Всеукраїнської громадської організації «Просвіти» звернулися з відкритим листом до Президента Віктора Януковича. Вони вимагають заборонити українофобські організації і нагадали, що торік у Луганську встановлено так званий пам'ятник «жертвам вояків ОУН-УПА», цього року Луганська облрада надала російській мові особливий статус, а на адміністративних будівлях майже два місяці майоріли червоні прапори.

Тож руйнування пам'ятника Шевченкові, на думку голови обласного осередку «Просвіти» Володимира Семистяги, продовжило низку антиукраїнських акцій.

«Луганщина – ми вважаємо – це своєрідний полігон, де відпрацьовуються такі антиукраїнські, антидержавні акції, які набувають істеричного характеру», – сказав він.

Гіпсове погруддя Шевченка встановили у 1961 році, згодом скульптуру вкрили міддю. Однак, в міліції впевнені, що пам'ятник не міг бути цінним для шукачів металобрухту.

Так виглядав пам'ятник

Все, що залишилось від нього

«Пам'ятник не може мати цінності, тому що він не обшитий, а тонований міддю. Хоча злодії могли не знати про це. Могли вкрасти, а потім побачити, що він не підлягає для здавання», – вважає начальник прес-центру обласного управління МВС Тетяна Погукай.

Пам'ятник Тарасу Шевченку стояв, фактично, на пустирі, біля покинутого гуртожитку. Скульптуру відновлять, але вже на новому місті – десь у центрі Стаханова, повідомив Радіо Свобода начальник відділу внутрішньої політики Стахановської міськради Володимир Житков: «Я запевняю вас, що до кінця року ця проблема буде повністю вирішена»

Він також закликає дочекатися закінчення міліцейського розслідування, аби робити висновки про те, кому знадобилося погруддя Тараса Шевченка.

Водночас, у Стаханові й справді є попит на металобрухт. Для багатьох здавати метал – це єдина можливість заробити якусь копійку. Навіть стахановська мерія, аби розрахуватися з боргами, нещодавно вирішила продати трамвайні колії. За останні 15 років у Стаханові закрили всі шахти та майже два десятки суміжних підприємств і ситуація з роботою не покращується.

Опозиція в Донецьку вийшла на вулицю

Олена Поволяєва, *Радіо Свобода*

Опозиція в Донецьку почала діяти. Об'єднані у Комітет опору диктатурі політичні партії та громадські організації вийшли на вулиці разом. Мітингувальники протестували проти вироку Юлії Тимошенко. Наступного дня після проголошення вердикту донецькі опозиціонери підписали резолюцію з цього приводу, а 14 жовтня вивели близько ста прихильників на центральну площу міста.

Серед членів Комітету опору диктатурі представники таких політичних сил як «Україна майбутнього», «Фронт змін», «Батьківщина», «Громадянська позиція», «Свобода», «Наша Україна» та інших. На мітингу спікери закликали продемонструвати об'єднану опозицію саме на Донеччині.

Олександр Гевелєв, представник донецької обласної організації партії «Громадянська позиція», пояснює цей намір так: «Донецьк – це регіон, який постійно сприяє тим режимам, тим засобам, якими користується ця влада. Тому активізація цієї громади в Донецьку, яка розуміє, що це погано, має вагоме значення. Чим більше ми знайдемо цих людей, і чим активніше ми будемо протестувати проти того свавілля, тим самим ми покажемо, що не тільки в Україні, а й саме в цьому регіоні є люди, є ідеї, які протистоять владі».

Але донеччани були невдоволені не лише вироком Тимошенко, а й сучасним станом речей. Вчителька донецької школи № 23 Олена Демченко пояснює, чому прийшла на мітинг: «Моя позиція і тих, які зараз тут зі мною, це «Ні! політичним репресіям»: Тимошенко, Луценко та іншим політичним в'язням. Далі – геть цю владу. Це влада, яка себе заплямувала, де тільки можна було заплямувати. Крім політичних репресій це обшук організації афганців, це закриття шкіл. Це найгірше, мабуть, у всій Європі медичне обслуговування. Як говорить Азаров, почали вони зараз реформу, але нічого не відбувається».

Коментуючи заплановану акцію, голова Донецької облдержадміністрації Андрій Шишацький запевнив, що контролює становище. За його словами, місцева влада не має «ні ворогів, ні опозиціонерів».

Політолог Олександр Клюжев у коментарі Радіо Свобода визнав слабкість донецької опозиції: «Безумовно, опозиція, в тому числі на місцях, сподівається на ефект певного розчарування населення в діях чинної влади, але поки серйозних сигналів про те, що це розчарування вийде на політичний рівень, тим більше у Донецькій області, говорити наразі зарано», – вважає Клюжев.

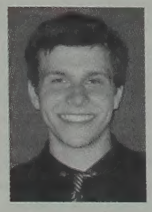
Водночас, за дослідженнями Київського міжнародного інституту соціології, рейтинг Партії регіонів найбільше впав на Донбасі і півдні України, де зростає кількість тих, хто не визначився і готовий голосувати проти всіх.

АЛЬБЕРТСЬКЕ ТОВАРИСТВО СПРИЯННЯ УКРАЇНСЬКИМ СТУДІЯМ
КАНАДСЬКИЙ ІНСТИТУТ УКРАЇНСЬКИХ СТУДІЙ
УКРАЇНСЬКА СТУДЕНТСЬКА СПІЛКА

Україна і Канада очима студентів
Ukraine and Canada as Witnessed by Students

Презентації студентів Програми обміну між Львівським і Альбертським університетами
(Віра Голіян, Ігор Коцюба, Стефан Пахолок, Домініка Лірет)

30 листопада 2011, 4:00-6:20 PM
236-238 Telus Centre, University of Alberta, 111 St & 87 Ave



Програма студентських обмінів ініційована Канадським інститутом українських студій Альбертського університету 2006 р. за підтримки Міжнародного відділу університету. Програма дає можливість навчатися в закордонному університеті, набувати нового досвіду і друзів, знайомитися з культурною спадщиною та покращувати знання мов.

А також: оголошення про створення нового фонду та привітання всім жертводавцям.

Перекуска. Паркування на кампусі.

Ukraine piles more charges on Tymoshenko

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine made fresh charges against former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on Oct. 24 despite a Western outcry over her recent jailing for seven years for abuse of office.

Tymoshenko's imprisonment on Oct. 11 for exceeding her authority by doing an unfavourable gas pricing deal with Russia in 2009 sparked outrage in the West and endangers the signing of a key agreement between Ukraine and the EU.

The opposition leader says she is the victim of a political vendetta by President Viktor Yanukovych, who narrowly beat her to the presidency last year. The EU and the United States say her trial was politically motivated and they want her released.

Lawyers for Tymoshenko said she had decided on Oct. 24 to appeal.

There is no sign that the sharp reaction from the EU, which called off a planned meeting with Yanukovych in Brussels on Oct. 20 in protest, has influenced thinking in the Kyiv leadership.

The state prosecutor's office said it was re-activating an old charge of embezzlement against Tymoshenko going back to the mid-1990s when she ran energy company, Unified Energy Systems.

Yulia Tymoshenko in court

Spokesman Yuriy Boychenko said the state prosecutor's office had reversed a 2005 decision to drop the case against Tymoshenko after the "Orange Revolution" protests swept her to power as prime minister.

"This decision was taken hurriedly, without reason and must be cancelled," Boychenko told journalists, Reuters reported.

He said the revived case included charges of tax evasion amounting to 20 million hryvnia ($2.5 million) and theft of 25 million hryvnias ($3.1 million).

Apart from the charge for which she has been jailed, Tymoshenko, who was prime minister until she lost the election battle with Yanukovych, is being investigated in connection with three other criminal cases.

The latest move by the general prosecutor appeared to confirm the view that the Yanukovych leadership is determined to keep Tymoshenko locked up for the time being and must now work on a new strategy in its relationship with the European Union.

"The new cases confirm that a decision has been made earlier to put Tymoshenko in prison," said Volodymyr Fesenko, an analyst at Penta think tank.

"Also, this is an attempt to discredit Tymoshenko in the eyes of the West."

Yanukovych played down the significance of being cold-shouldered by the EU Oct. 20, saying with bravado that he would not "go begging" to Brussels.

For the time being at least, though, he is not going back on his commitment to taking his former Soviet republic into mainstream Europe.

The 27-member bloc though is now itself divided over how to handle Ukraine which is the cornerstone of its Eastern neighbourhood policy with some former Soviet states.

An association agreement, which includes creation of a free trade zone, had been due to be signed at the end of the year. But some EU diplomats are now questioning whether a Ukraine-EU summit will be held at all.

Other charges against Tymoshenko include alleged misuse of government funds received in exchange for emission quotas sold to Japan under the Kyoto protocol and use of ambulances, purchased by the government, for political campaigning.

A new charge brought against her since she was jailed alleges that she took part in a "criminal conspiracy" 15 years ago to embezzle state funds through gas purchases from Russia, resulting in $405 million of debt to Russia.

This charge also dates back to her leadership of UES energy company in the 1990s when sleaze, crime and corruption were rife in post-Soviet Ukraine.

It was Tymoshenko's direction of the company, which imported Russian gas for resale in Ukraine, from 1995-96 that earned her the nickname of "gas princess".

European Parliament brands Tymoshenko jailing 'rights violation'

(RFE/RL)—The European Parliament has deplored the jailing of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on abuse-of-office charges "as a violation of human rights and an abuse of the judiciary."

The resolution passed overwhelmingly by the chamber urges authorities in Kyiv to ensure a fair and transparent appeal process.

The text, which was supported by all five major political groups, also says Tymoshenko should be allowed to participate fully in the political process both now and in future Ukrainian elections.

Tymoshenko was jailed for seven years earlier this month on abuse-of-office charges stemming from a 2009 natural gas deal she signed with Russia while in office. The European Union roundly condemned the sentence when it was pronounced and a recent visit to Brussels by Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych was called off Oct. 18.

The resolution states that this visit "would have offered an excellent opportunity to tackle serious concerns which have been addressed to the Ukraine government" and urges the EU Commission and Council to reschedule the meeting before the planned EU-Ukraine summit in December.

The European Parliament indicated that a trade agreement between Brussels and Kyiv, which is expected to be signed during the December summit, might be put on ice if the sentence is not changed.

"A failure to review Yulia Tymoshenko's conviction will jeopardize the conclusion of the association agreement and its ratification, while pushing the country further away from the realization of its European perspective," it says.

"Ukraine is a European state with a European perspective," Member of the European Parliament Elmer Brok added. "We must have an association agreement with Ukraine, but Ukraine must go in the right direction and cannot systematically persecute the opposition and tread on the rule of law. The fate of the Ukrainian citizens is now in the hands of President Yanukovych."

The EU lawmakers also expressed concern about the deterioration of media freedom and pluralism in Ukraine and the continued detention of former Interior Minister Yuriy Lutsenko, who is on trial on similar charges as Tymoshenko.

UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ

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Canada

Words are nice, but action is needed

The House of Commons held a rare four-hour emergency debate on the declining state of democracy in Ukraine, Oct. 18.

Speakers for all three major parties roundly condemned the politically motivated selective justice and sentencing in the case of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko as well as the similar political show trials of other members of her government.

While many of the speakers were of Ukrainian origin, married to Canadians of Ukrainian origin, or represented constituencies, with large Ukrainian Canadian populations, it was encouraging to see some speakers, who have virtually no Ukrainian representation in their constituencies participate as well. This included two MPs from Quebec City — Anne-Marie Day (Charlesbourg—Haute-Saint-Charles, NDP), and Alexandrine Latendresse (Louis-Saint-Laurent, NDP). Latendresse is particularly interesting as she visited Ukraine while on a student exchange in Moscow three years ago and, in her own words, fell in love with the country. Members of our community who have spoken with her say she is very knowledgeable about Ukrainian affairs. It is critical for us to have support from MPs other than those in whose ridings we have large communities. Because the threat to democracy in Ukraine is a global issue that transcends our own community in its scope..

But while we are greatly encouraged by the amount of interest demonstrated during the debate, we must still point out that while words are fine, when dealing with a thug like Viktor Yanukovych, one must take concrete action.

He is apparently oblivious to all the diplomatic pressure that has been exerted by Canada, the United States and the European Union. EU leaders somehow misread Yanukovych so completely that they believed he would instruct legislators to pass a law to decriminalize the offences with which Tymoshenko was charged after her sentencing. He did the exact opposite, He ordered prosecutors to lay even more charges on her – charges dating back to the 1990's. What this shows is that Yanukovych is not simply satisfied with keeping Tymoshenko out of action for political reasons. He wants to make her suffer as much as possible – evidence of a vindictive and sadistic mind.

While Opposition members tried to press Government members on utilizing the Free Trade Agreement, now under negotiation with Ukraine, as a lever for human rights, Government members were cagey.

This may be because the Government itself is being cagey. While Prime Minster Stephen Harper has not come out with any direct threats against Yanukovych, he certainly has made some veiled references. In his letter to the Ukrainian President, Harper stated: "I cannot overstate the potential negative impact of the current judicial proceedings Yulia Tymoshenko both on Ukraine`s future relations with Canada and others, and on Ukraine`s long-term democratic development."

Not that Yanukovych is all that concerned about Ukraine's long-term development,.

But, depending upon what "potential negative impact" on relations Harper may have in mind, there may be some substance there. The Free Trade Agreement is one real lever Canada has. Another may be selective sanctions aimed directly at the ruling elite. These may be the most effective approach as they would affect those oligarch who Keep Yanukovych in power, eroding his base of support.

And the West must also get a lot tougher with Yanukovych himself.

As we have noted in previous editorials – he is a convicted violent criminal – a thug who only understands force. Yanukovych cannot be reasoned with. Let us recall that, during the Orange Revolution, Yanukovych wanted to use brute force against the peaceful demonstrators. It was Leonid Kuchma who pulled the plug on that approach.

But it is Yanukovych we are dealing with today.

Excerpts from Ukraine debate

(House of Commons, Oct. 18, 2011)

"There is a wonderful institution that comes out of Alberta, the Ukrainian News, which has been there for many decades. It has been giving front page coverage to this issue. It is clearly an issue of concern to Canadians and to Albertans, and not just people of Ukrainian decent. "

Linda Duncan (Edmonton—Strathcona, NDP)

"We must engage with Ukrainians to support their desires to build a democratic and free society. This cannot mean, however, that we sacrifice our principles for the sake of engagement. Canada will repeat its criticisms of shortcomings that threaten the building of a peaceful, democratic and prosperous Ukraine. It is through this type of critical engagement that Canada can most effectively support the Ukrainian urge for freedom and democracy.

Peter Goldring (Edmonton East, CPC)

"I and the Liberal caucus have benefited immensely from the past performance of Borys Wrzesnewskyj, the former member of Parliament for Etobicoke Centre, and he also was a friend. Even though I have not known him long, he was a colleague of mine, and he ensures that the Liberal caucus is being kept informed on this very important issue."

Kevin Lamoureux (Winnipeg North, Lib.)

"I am proud to be part of a government that exemplifies such principled foreign policy at home and abroad. We will always stand on principle. We will always uphold the rule of law. We will always defend Canadian values here and around the world. We are a valued and trusted friend of Ukraine and many of our other allies. We will always stand up for freedom and democracy."

Robert Sopuck (Dauphin—Swan River—Marquette, CPC)

"This debate is about far more than the fate of one Ukrainian leader. It really goes directly to the question of whether the Ukrainian government respects basic human rights and its international commitments and whether Ukrainian citizens receive equal treatment under the law."

Peggy Nash (Parkdale—High Park, NDP)

"A case study in selective prosecution, in all the arbitrariness that attended it, in the denial of a right to fair trial before an impartial and independent judiciary, in the denial of the right to know the nature of the charges against her, denial of the right to counsel, we have gone from the excitement of the 2004 Orange Revolution to the nadir that we are now witnessing in Ukraine."

Irwin Cotler (Mount Royal, Lib.)

"There is no doubt in my mind that Tymoshenko's conviction and pending charges are aimed at silencing an effective opposition leader, a necessary requirement for a healthy democracy. That is why I am speaking out today. This case is much greater than the fate of one Ukrainian leader. It goes directly to the issue of whether the Ukrainian government respects basic human rights and its responsibility to provide fairness and due process under its laws."

Ted Opitz (Etobicoke Centre, CPC)

"It was during this Orange Revolution that the main subject of tonight's debate appeared on the scene... It was as though she had fallen from heaven. Yulia Tymoshenko climbed up on the barricades and spoke on behalf of Ukrainians. With her symbolic braid, she resembles the poet Lesya Ukrainka. She expresses herself beautifully in Ukrainian and fires everyone's imagination. Yulia Tymoshenko would become the great heroine of a country that no longer wanted to be forgotten by the western world. …We cannot deny the fact that this woman represented an important symbol for her people."

Alexandrine Latendresse (Louis-Saint-Laurent, NDP)

"Crimes against humanity that were not sufficiently condemned by those in the other parties always will be on this side and we will fight for freedom and stand for it four-square. That is why we are proud to be doing what we are doing today for freedom in the Ukraine."

Peter Van Loan (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, CPC)

"We should be looking very closely at the proposed Canada-Ukraine free trade agreement to see if we should move forward in the current circumstances and if so, if we can include in the agreement some safeguards and guarantees regarding human rights and the rule of law. We cannot do trade only without taking into account issues as important as human rights. If it is not a matter of being kind, it is a matter of being smart. Countries that do not respect human rights are often more unstable countries, and no one wins."

Hélène Laverdière (Laurier-Sainte-Marie, NDP)

"In the medium term, we must commit to take action with our allies, that is, Europe, the United States and other countries that share our values. We need a unified effort with our allies in order to have an influence on Ukraine and its government, which is resisting our country's requests. That is what we will do."

Bernard Trottier (Etobicoke—Lakeshore, CPC)

"We do not want to isolate Ukraine. That is not what I am saying. However, we can use that tool. We could also use the tool of some of our CIDA projects to actually support civil society more. In many ways it is when civil society gets strengthened and the strength is internal that it works from that end. Then our job, being another nation, is to work from the diplomatic end using whatever tools we can."

Jinny Jogindera Sims (Newton—North Delta, NDP)

"Canada is concerned by the apparently politically motivated persecution, and now arrest, of Yulia Tymoshenko. The appearance of political bias in judicial proceedings undermines the rule of law. Canada urges the Ukrainian government to strengthen judiciary independence and continues to support efforts to build a peaceful, democratic and prosperous society in Ukraine."

Leon Benoit (Vegreville—Wainwright, CPC)

"We have a role to play as parliamentarians and as the Government of Canada to support our Prime Minister in calling for swift action on this case. Other than that, we should not isolate Ukraine. We have to work with our brothers and sisters in Ukraine to finally bring a democratic government to their country."

Alex Atamanenko British Columbia Southern Interior, NDP)

"We want to see a positive future for Ukraine. We will continue to pull together as parliamentarians and work with other international partners to encourage the Ukraine judiciary to make sure things are done properly and with transparency. The situation with Yulia Tymoshenko hopefully will be reviewed and the right thing will be done, because the opposition cannot be treated in that way."

Mark Warawa (Langley, CPC)

"Our foreign policy is a principled one. It is rooted in the defence of human freedom and in those things that elevate us as human beings: freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. We will not back down in defending and promoting these ideals for all nations and all peoples around the world."

Laurie Hawn (Edmonton Centre, CPC)

"I am very emotional because I am an immigrant to this country. I was born and raised in communist Poland which is now independent Poland, a neighbour of Ukraine. I can see that old forces are being reborn in that country. These people deserve the best."

Wladyslaw Lizon (Mississauga East—Cooksville, CPC)

"For those who are in positions of leadership or authority, it is not too late to rectify the wrong that has been done. It is not too late for those who have been sentenced to have those sentences changed under an appeal or otherwise so they can participate in an election. It is time to go forward, not backward."

Ed Komarnicki (Souris—Moose Mountain, CPC)

"More than 12 members and senior officials of the previous government have been detained in criminal probes. In addition to Mrs. Tymoshenko, one former minister has been jailed and another has fled and successfully claimed political asylum in the Czech Republic. I am confident that such bullying will not win the day. We must continue to urge the Ukrainian government to strengthen judicial independence and to support efforts to build a peaceful, democratic and prosperous society in Ukraine, because our ties with the Ukrainian people are significant."

Bob Dechert (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, CPC

"So to be clear, our government is very concerned about the path the Government of Ukraine appears to be taking. Tuesday's developments may have serious consequences for our bilateral relationship. The Ukrainian people can count on Canada to stand-up for their liberty. Canada is always ready to help … to help democratic institutions take root, in Ukraine and around the world. And I know that each and every person here tonight shares that cause."

Stella Ambler (Mississauga South, CPC):

Time for serious sanctions against Ukraine

By Walter Derzko

I've written about the need for the West to seriously consider imposing targeted visa sanctions and asset freezes against Yanukovych's regime in the past. Events in the past two weeks have strengthened the case for the imposition of such harsh measures against the Ukrainian regime. Yanukovych dismissed the unanimous criticism from the West immediately after the sentencing of Yulia Tymoshenko on Oct. 11, as a Western plot. World leaders are unfairly ganging up on Ukraine, he says.

The following is a list of reasons why the West should get serious about imposing sanctions, from a briefing paper that was developed by the Strategic Foresight Institute Think Tank project. It was sent to Ukrainian community leaders and politicians before the Shevchenko Medal Tribute Dinner to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and the Canadian parliamentary debate and committee hearing on Ukraine in Ottawa.

• Ukraine illegally employs children in coal mining operations in Donetsk. Canada signed the UN Convention on Child Abuse and Children's Rights and takes a dim view such abuse. Child labour is an open secret in Donbas, and the Ukrainian government tacitly condones and profits from it. A 15 year old boy appears in an award winning documentary produced by a Baltic film company called "Pit Number Eight."

This film alone provides concrete evidence for the European Union to impose sanctions against the Ukrainian coal industry and against Viktor Yanukovych, Renat Akhmetov and Yuri Ivanyushchenko, who directly profit from this illegal underage child labour.

• The opposition calls for sanctions. Canada has a precedent to follow. Germany imposed visa sanctions against 14 Ukrainian businessmen on Oct. 12, right after Tymoshenko supporters called on the EU to impose sanctions against Yanukovych. This sent shock waves through business circles from Kyiv to Donetsk. "Ukraine must not pay for the kleptomaniac and dictatorial habits of the incumbent President.

Personal sanctions must be imposed against Yanukovych and the key political figures who are propping up the regime, as well as perpetrators of their criminal orders. This whole group of individuals and their family members should be barred from the countries of the Euro-Atlantic community," the statement said. The foreign bank accounts of the Yanukovych family, his entourage and affiliated companies should be frozen, the Fatherland Party said.

• Tymoshenko was denied the right to a proper, fair defence and a host of other guaranteed constitutional rights. It should be mentioned that Yanukovych's non-action and denial of responsibility in principle constitutes an impeachable offence, as he has failed to fulfill his constitutional duties as President and as guarantor of the Constitution.

• Besides Tymoshenko, there are at least 125 innocent political prisoners and repressed people in Ukraine in 2011.

• Over 800 innocent people have died in pre-trial detention so far this year in Ukraine.

• Tymoshenko and Lutsenko and thousands of others in pre-trial detention are routinely denied basic human rights by being refused proper, independent, medical attention.

• Only 0.2 % (or 2 in 1000) of the people that are indicted by the prosecution in Ukraine are found not guilty and are set free. The average in the EU is over 40%.

• Over 200,000 small and medium sized enterprises have been forced to close in 2011 due to selective tax enforcement, bribes and intimidation.

• Hundreds of ordinary Ukrainian people lose their jobs every time they attend street demonstrations across Ukraine.

• Thousands of oppositionists and students are routinely questioned, intimidated and harassed by corrupt police and SBU.

• The Ukrainian political opposition on Oct. 12 formally approached the Canadian Ambassador to Ukraine asking that Canada impose visa sanctions and asset freezes on the Party of Regions and the Yanukovych regime.

• The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America has urged the US Congress to impose visa sanctions against Ukrainian government representatives.

• Current and former MP's from all three Canadian political parties call on Canada to impose harsh measures including visa sanctions against the Ukrainian regime during a demonstration in Toronto in front of the Ukrainian Consulate, only hours after Tymoshenko was sentenced.

• The "Lifestyles of the Rich and Infamous" — while over 40% of the Ukrainian population lives below or close to the poverty line, the costs of supporting the lavish lifestyle of President Yanukovych costs the Ukrainian taxpayer over $220,000 per day.

UCC appears before Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs

(UCC National/Office of MP Peter Goldring)—Oct. 20 the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development.

At tthe meeting, senior officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs Jillian Stirk, ADM Europe and Leigh Sarty, Director, appeared to brief Members of Parliament on the situation in Ukraine and to look at next steps. Also appearing was Taras Zalusky, Executive Director of UCC, along with the one of UCC's member organizations, Lisa Shymko, Executive Director Canadian Friends of Ukraine and Dr. Taras Kuzio, Senior Visiting Fellow, Center for Transatlantic Relations, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, John Hopkins University.

The UCC reiterated its call for a multifaceted approach in dealing with Ukraine including diplomatic intervention, adjusting the focus of CIDA's activities, ensuring Human Rights provisions are included in the negotiation of any Canada Ukraine Free Trade Agreement and election observation.

"Negotiations on a Canada-Ukraine free trade agreement should be made conditional upon the Ukrainian government committing to respecting democracy and human rights," stated Zalusky. "Given the political context in Ukraine, we strongly encourage Canada to ensure that the proposed Canada Ukraine Free Trade Agreement contain specific provisions guaranteeing human rights, rule of law and adherence to fundamental democratic principles as a condition to the conclusion of such an agreement."

The UCC brief also pointed to backsliding in the area of human rights and administration of justice. 'Opposition leaders are being arrested, jailed and charged. Politically motivated, selective justice is being meted out indiscriminately against opponents of the Yanukovych government.'

"There is growing and serious concern with the upcoming Parliamentary elections. How can they be declared free and fair if the leaders of two opposition parties, including the leader of the official opposition are not able to participate?" asked Zalusky.

The UCC brief recommended that greater emphasis be placed on longer-term election observation and on publicizing any anti-democratic machinations in the lead up to the vote as they occur. It is crucial that Ukrainian citizens know that the world will be watching closely when upcoming elections are held.

Edmonton East MP Peter Goldring, who requested that the Styanding Committee hold a special session on Ukraine, asked if the arrest, trial and conviction of Yulia Tymoshenko was an example of a free and fair democracy in action, or a politically motivated attempt prevent her from challenging incumbent Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych in the next election.

He added that when he was in Ukraine for the 10 days of the Orange Revolution in 2004 there were numerous attempts to intimidate him, to get him to leave Ukraine so that he could not report the truth of what was happening. He said it was important that people knew the truth of what was happening then, and that he hoped the people in Ukraine today are being given all the information they need to determine the new threat to democracy in Ukraine.

The Oct. 20 intervention at the standing committee follows closely on the heels of the emergency debate which was held in Parliament on Oct. 18.

UCC announces National Holodomor Awareness Week

Canadians prepare to mark the 78th anniversary of the Ukrainian famine genocide

(UCC National)—The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) is launching the fourth annual National Holodomor Awareness Week November 21-27. The goal is to annually unite the Ukrainian community and all Canadians in remembering the victims and raising awareness of this genocide.

International Holodomor Memorial Day will be observed on Saturday, November 26. In Canada, this day has been enshrined in both federal and provincial legislation as Holodomor Memorial Day.

The Holodomor, by its geographical focus and intensity, is one of the greatest genocides in human history. It is an example of the deprivation of the human right to food and embodies the human rights violations suffered by the victims of communism around the world.

The UCC continues its efforts to secure this genocide's rightful place in the new publicly-funded Canadian Museum for Human Rights. In Canada, the Holodomor is a genocide recognized by the Parliament of Canada. In Ukraine, the authorities continue their efforts to bury this historical truth. Canadians of Ukrainian descent have a moral obligation to ensure that the Holodomor is recognized and properly acknowledged.

Let us remember together:

• On Saturday, November 26 at 19:32 (7:32 p.m.) local time pause for a moment of silence to honour the memory of the victims;

• Light a candle of remembrance in our windows;

• Participate in memorial services in our local churches;

• Participate in events organized by our local community.

This is the bare minimum which we, as Ukrainians and Canadians, should do not only for the millions of victims, but more importantly, for our descendants who must always remember the Holodomor and continue to heighten the international community's sensitivity to the reoccurrence of similar tragedies.

Let's reveal the truth about the Holodomor to the world!

Ukraine remembers - the World Acknowledges

PETER GOLDRING
Member of Parliament
Edmonton East

REMEMBERING AN EXEMPLARY CITIZEN

On November 11 at 11 a.m., Remembrance Day, Canadians take time to remember, to pay tribute to the more than two million who have served this country in uniform since Confederation, especially the more than 116,000 of them who lie in foreign graves, forever young. By honouring them we show respect for their legacy: our country - our freedom.

One of those two million, who served with distinction, was Bill Lesick, who passed away in September of this year. His story, from humble beginnings, says a lot about just what it means to be Canadian.

Bill was born in 1923, in Spedden, Alberta in the Smoky Lake district, of immigrant Ukrainian parents. He contributed to his province and to his country with great distinction, in a way that can best be described as truly honourable.

As a member of the Canadian Army he served in World War II, in Europe, helping liberate Holland with the 4th Princess Louise Dragoon Guards. After the war he owned and managed the Beverly Pharmacy.

Bill Lesick believed in public service. He was elected and served as Member of Parliament for Edmonton East, then served as Citizenship Judge. As a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Norwood Branch Bill was known to all as he chaired the Remembrance Day Parade at the Beverly Cenotaph for many years.

William George Lesick was a War Veteran, a Member of Parliament, a Pharmacist, a Citizenship Judge, a recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal and a Friend.

Like so many Canadian veterans, Bill Lesick was respected for his service to his country in war and peace. He will be greatly missed by his family and his many friends, especially on Remembrance Day each year. This year, pause for a moment, remember those who served Canada for the freedoms we enjoy today.

We must not forget.

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PHOTOS — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Above: Violinist Inessa Tymochko, singers Yevhen Vaskin and Svitlana Sasu join "Donbas" for the "My Ukraine" finale. Below: "Azov Sailor's Dance".

Donbas shows Ukrainian culture is alive and vibrant in the East

By Marco Levytsky

Boenarts showcased a wide-ranging and brilliant sample of Ukrainian music and dance at the "Talent of Ukraine" performance at the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton, Oct. 14, but, unfortunately not that many members of the community were on hand to witness it.

Edmonton was the third stop on a 12-city Canadian tour, Oct. 11 – 25 that also included Vancouver, Vernon, Airdrie-Calgary, Regina, Saskatoon, Yorkton, Winnipeg, Thunder Bay, Mississauga-Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.

Organizers Ken Kachmar and Bohdan Tkachyshyn expressed disappointed with the turnout which barely reached a quarter of capacity.

Perhaps members of the community were hesitant to attend a concert headlined by the "Donbas" dance group from Donetsk, a city best known for giving us Viktor Yanukovych, but the Honoured Academic Song and Dance Company of Ukraine aptly demonstrated that Ukrainian culture is alive and vibrant even in that region.

What's more, one can also say that with Ukrainian culture under pressure in those regions of Ukraine, we in the diaspora should make it a point to encourage those who do maintain it in the East and support them to the fullest.

Much of Donbas' repertoire focussed on the Western and Central regions of Ukraine, with pieces such as "Transcarpathian Dance", "Carpathian Fighters" Zaparozhtsi", "Cossack's Ride Over the Dunai", and "Hopak".

Even the Eastern numbers, "Azov Sailor's Dance" and "Over the Kalmius River", were marked by steps that were distinctly Ukrainian.

There were folkloric elements in the lyrical Midsummer's Wreath, unique in that what is usually a women's dance, was performed by both men and women. As a counterpoint, the traditional Welcome Dance was performed just by the women. Entitled "The Ukrainian Girl (Ukrayinochka), it featured graceful motion by women dressed in stylised embroidered outfits with blue and yellow skirts.

Humorous interludes included "Near the Brook" and "Cossack's Joy", while "Gypsy Caravan" showcased the fast rhythms and broad movements of gypsy dances.

All the numbers were highlighted by the technical perfection and flowing motion that we have learned to expect from such professional Ukrainian groups as Virsky.

Singer Yevhen Vaskin– also from Donetsk – showed why he is the winner of several all-Ukrainian vocal competitions with a rich and powerful tenor which shone on such number as "Marichka", "Chornobryvtsi" and a collection of well-know popular numbers which exemplify the Ukrainian soul.

Svitlana Sasu from Kyiv, a winner of the Kvitka Cisyk International competition of Ukrainian Romance brilliantly executed such pieces as Cisyk's own adaptation of "Dva Koliory" and Ivasiuk's "Chervona Ruta" among others.

Solo violinist Inessa Tymochko delivered a sizzling performance of solos. Among them a riveting rendition of "Verkhovyno".

All three soloists joined the dance company to close out the concert with an anthemic rendition of Nazariy Yaremchuk and O. Tkach's "My Ukraine".

Fundraiser nets $15,000 for Maple Leaf Safe House

(UkrNews)—Over 200 people attended the "Blossoms of Love Fashion Show" organized as a fundraising event by the Maple Leaf Alberta Project in conjunction with the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Foundation, at the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex, Oct. 15.

Over $15,000 was raised to finish the Maple Leaf/Klenovyi Lyst Safe House in Stoyaniv, Lviv Oblast.

The house will provide a safe and caring environment for youth at risk with vocational training and language skills to divert the youth of Ukraine from human trafficking, explained Iryna Synychak, Co-Chair of Maple Leaf Alberta Projects.

Iryna Synychak

"Did you know that since 1991 over 500,000 girls and women from Ukraine have been bought and sold as sex slaves? Did you know that human trafficking is a global issue with estimates of 27,000,000 slaves?

"At Maple Leaf Alberta Projects we are committed to increasing awareness of the sex trade and human trafficking not only in Ukraine, but in Canada as well. We are committed to stand and fight the injustice done to these innocent lives," she added.

Young women, who seek work to escape extreme poverty, low employment and the cost of adult education, are the prime victims.

Girls are enticed or stolen off streets, roadways and public gathering by traffickers.

Friends and villagers are paid by traffickers to prompt girls to apply to specific ads posted by human buyers that resell young women.

Mothers, daughters apply for work as domestics in Western Europe and the Middle East are deceived. Their passports are taken away, and they are forced to sex work to repay transportation fees.

Everyone in a village knows a young woman who they do not know where she is.

100,000 children are classified as orphans in Ukraine. At the age 16 - 17 they may no longer legally remain in the care of orphanages, which is where safe houses like the Maple Leaf come into play.

Greetings were brought by Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel, who commended the work of Maple Leaf Projects and Honorary Chair Jane Poitras, who related how she brought attention to the problem of prostitution in Edmonton.

One local victim of human trafficking, Janita Murphy, related her experiences. She was victimized for 22 years and has spent the last 15 as a survivor. Murphy attributed her recovery to the work of the Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation (CEASE) and issued a warning to any young girls who may contemplate a life of prostitution.

"When you sell your body for anything at all something is wrong. Kids today are saying what's sex? I'm going to give it away anyways, so I must as well get paid for it.... They're thinking I can trade sex for a ride in the mall or a bottle of vodka, I can trade sex for a pack of cigarettes, but they don't understand that they are selling their soul," she said.

Kate Quinn, Director of CEASE, stressed the need to change laws in order to curb human trafficking

"We need to have a country that says that as Canadians we will not tolerate the sexual exploitation and human sex trafficking and human labour trafficking of any vulnerable person," she said.

The evening featured a fashion show displaying the works of Tressa Heckbert, Natasha Lazarovic, Kelsey MacIntyre and Savelia Curniski's designer coats from Ukraine.

CTV's Dez Melenka served as Master of Ceremonies.

Natasha Lazarovic with some of the models displaying her creations.

"Різдвяна містерія"

Кожного року з великою радістю наша Православна Церква і увесь християнський світ святкує Різдво Христове, згадуючи надзвичайну подію, яка відбулася в певний історичний час.Сутність цієї священної події полягає в тім, що Бог, який створив світ, і в тому числі людину, стає Людиною, не перестаючи бути Богом. В ту преблагословенну ніч, коли народився Ісус Христос, небо раділо народженню Його і ангели славословили пришестя Сина Божого сповіщаючи мир серед людей. З поміж самих же людей тільки прості пастухи не спали та перші удостоїлися почути радісну вістку від ангела про народження Спасителя світу. В цілому місті Вифлеємі не знайшлося гідного місця для народженого Богомладенця Христа.Тільки убогий вертеп з яслами став місцем Його народження. З давніх давен наш український народ величаво святкує Різдво Христове. Кожна українська сім'я з великим нетерпінням чекає цього свята, яке на превеликий жаль дуже швидко проминає, залишаючи в памяті тільки хороші спогади: Святий вечір, кутя яка єднає всю родину за великим сімейним столом, чудова українська колядка, що лунає в кожному місті, містечку чи селищі.

А також давнім українським звичаєм є ходіння з вертепом. Вперше в Україні вертеп зявляється в першій половині XVII-го століття. Походить він від містерії (західноєвропейська середньовічна релігійна драма), що в цьому часі розповсюджується на Україні. А найбільше поширилися вертепні вистави в другій половині XVIII століття, а особливо, в добу занепаду Києво-Могилянської академії, коли число вертепників поповнювалось її вихованцями. Початкова форма вертепу – був ляльковий театр, який розігрувався в невеликій спеціальній скринці, яка ззовні була схожа на макет двоповерхового будиночка, на своєрідну двоярусну сцену.

Ця форма вертепу була найзручнішою для поширення в маси і служила поширенням правди про історичні події християнства, духовні і національні традиції українського народу. А у XVIII-XIX столітті був відомий такий вертеп, який ми можемо бачити зараз , так званий живий вертеп, в якому ролі дійових осіб виконували не ляльки , а люди. Саме такий можемо бачити кожного Різдва майже по всіх наших містах і селах. Що ж до тексту вертепної драми,то це – цікаве поєднання книжних елементів з елементами народними. Вертепна драма складається з двох частин: різдвяної драми і механічно приєднаної до неї сатирично-побутової інтермедії. Перша частина вертепу, що зветься "святою", більш менш стійка, а друга народна, змінюється в залежності від місцевих умов та здібностей самого вертепника. Вертеп – це відтворення містерії Різдвяної ночі. За допомогою живих акторів, дітей і дорослих, які розігрували різдвяні оповідання, переходячи від будинку до будинку зі звісткою Вифлеємських пастирів, люди прославляли пришестя у світ Спасителя Христа.

Кожного року в час Різдвяних свят, коли сам Христос зійшов до нас на землю, ми повинні поспішити на зустріч з Ним, зібратись навколо Ясел Христових та подякувати Йому за любов і милосердя. Нехай же ми, в ці спасенні Різдвяні дні, з очищеними серцем і душею, ввійдемо в світлий Вертеп Христовий, привітаєм новонародженого младенця Христа, та подякуємо Господу Вседержителю за Його безмежну любов та милосердя до всіх нас!

+Андрій, Єпископ УПЦК

ФОТО — СЕРГІЙ КОСТЮК

Перший ряд: Даринка Костюк. Другий ряд зліва на право: Іванна Шевчук, Володимир Вермінський, Тарас Подільський, Віталій Сторожук, Сергій Костюк.

Українські повстанські пісні – зброя проти гнобителів України

Сергій Костюк, *Українські вісті*

16 жовтня українська громада м. Едмонтону мала шану вітати співака й композитора, заслуженого артиста України, Володимира Вермінського. У формі вояка Української Повстанської Армії (УПА) Володимир виступив із концертом-вшанування борців за волю України "Відлуння криївки" на Святі Покрови, який відбувся в Домі української молоді ім. Генерала УПА Романа Шухевича. "Йшли селом партизани", "Ой у лісі на полянці", "Сніги", "Без рідної хати", "Лісові генерали", "Що за військо йде?" – цих та багато інших пісень Володимира гостинно вітали близько 200 слухачів концерту.

"Повстанські пісні це моя зброя, якою я воюю з тими, хто насідає нам на плечі", говорить Володимир. "Я вже вчетверте у Канаді та США і завжди приємно бачити місцевих українців на моїх концертах. Я мав можливість залишитися за кордоном, але щоразу повертаюся додому, в Україну і роблю свою справу", продовжує гість. Володимир родом із Тернопільщини, а автор слів і музики до багатьох творів, які він виконує – Олександр Смик із Сумщини. У репертуарі Володимира, професійного музиканта за освітою, також є і сучасні українські пісні, і колядки і щедрівки. Напередодні Володимир виступив у Калгарі, а після Едмонтону поїде до Вінніпегу.

Цьогорічним Святом Покрови Пресвятої Богородиці Марії – традиційному святі Покровительки українців з часів Київської Русі, а також запорізьких козаків і вояків УПА – його організатори, Ліга Українців Канади, Ліга Українок Канади і Спілка Української Молоді Канади (СУМ), піднесли душі й серця присутніх молитвою, піснею і спогадами під оморфом Пречистої вшанували пам'ять про усіх полеглих синів і доньок українських визвольних змагань. "Ми підносимо стяг вдячності усім тим героям і героїням, які непохитно відповіли на клич своєї неньки-України, обороняючи її світлу честь та охороняючи її незламний народ – як в минулому й сьогоденні, так і в лавах майбутніх поколінь", зазначили ведучі програми з юнацтва СУМ в Едмонтоні – Оксана Солецька, Михайлина Федина й Данило Крись.

Окрім виступу гостя з України, Програма включала внесення прапорів українських державницьких організацій при українській домівці, панахиду відправлену о. Тарасенком, виступ Хору СУМ "Верховина" (диригент Галина Лазурко), національний славень "Ще не вмерла України".

У заключному слові Тарас Подільський подякував другові Володимиру, який приїхав з України на Свято Покрови, Свято Героїв, Свято УПА, віддати шану борцям за волю України, особливо УПА, організаційному комітету, о. Тарасенку, ведучим Програми, СУМу та її виховникам, усім присутнім за участь.

Організатори Свята: Лідія Василин, Славко та Ірка Андрієвський, Олеся Луців Андрийович, Славко Ногас, Тарас та Ігор Подільський, Ярослав та Іванна Шевчук, Лариса Шмігельська.

Лісові генерали

слова і музика О.Смика, виконує В.Вермінський

По незбираних яблуках, по нескошених травах
Утікали до лісу від зради затравлені
І палали під небом свічі кинутих хат,
За молодшого брата ішов старший брат.

Лісові генерали, наділив Бог сповна,
Вистачало звитяги, відваги і честі.
Лісові генерали, та життя ж – не війна,
Озирніться довкола – скільки спалених весен!

А коли за край неба позліталися круки
І жінки голосили, залишившись з синами,
Вишиванки топтали москалі-яструбки
І везли сім'ї їх до Сибіру возами.

Лісові генерали, наділив Бог сповна,
Вистачало звитяги, відваги і честі.
Лісові генерали, та життя ж – не війна,
Озирніться довкола - скільки спалених весен!

Виростали сини – люті діти війни,
Тим снігам, таборам у продовженні сниться
Хтось на білім коні, хтось на тім вороні
Досі скачуть і годі спинитися!

Лісові генерали, наділив Бог сповна,
Вистачало звитяги, відваги і честі.
Лісові генерали, та життя ж – не війна,
Озирніться довкола – скільки спалених весен!
Озирніться довкола - скільки спалених весен...

Президент СКУ виступив на річниці УПА

(СКУ) – 16 жовтня президент Світового Конгресу Українців (СКУ) Евген Чолій виступив з промовою перед учасниками відзначення в Монтреалі річниці створення Української Повстанської Армії.

Чолій висловив признання воякам усіх українських формацій, які боролись за незалежність України, та звернув увагу на причини створення Української Повстанської Армії і особливості її боротьби з нацистською Німеччиною і більшовицьким Радянським Союзом.

На завершення Чолій наголосив на останніх тривожних подіях в Україні та на тому, що сьогоднішні часи вимагають великої жертовної праці для захисту державності та основних принципів демократії в Україні.

President elect Zorianna Hrycenko-Luhova (2nd row second from left) with members of the UCC Montreal executive.

UCC Montreal holds its AGM

(UCC Montreal)—The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), Montreal branch and Quebec Provincial Council, held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sept. 24. Re-elected unanimously for a second term was Zorianna Hrycenko-Luhova, who has been actively working in the Ukrainian community for over 30 years. Among members elected to the new executive for 2011-2012 include Marika Putko, past president; Bohdanna Klecor-Hawryliuk, first vice-president and cultural-educational committee chairperson, Olena Kulishov and Lina Hawryliw, secretaries; Yourko Kulycky and Andrij Dragan treasurers; vice-presidents Pavlo Showhaniuk, Prof. Roman Serbyn; Zenon Bryniawsky; member at large James Slobodian and others.

The president's detailed annual report was highlighted by several major projects which includes UCC Montreal's working closely with Camp Spirit Lake Corporation in La Ferme, Quebec and the establishment of the Spirit Lake Internment Interpretive Centre, which was opened to the general public end of June. The Centre will have its official opening, by-invitation-only, end of November. UCC Montreal passed a resolution in support of the Spirit Lake Centre, recognizing that the Centre, the first of its kind in Canada, has an important cultural-educational impact on the entire Quebec province and other parts of Canada. Besides outlining other projects pertinent to Ukrainians in Montreal, she mentioned that both the Montreal branch and UCC National are monitoring closely and reacting to the worrisome events developing in Ukraine today.

Among other reports presented were from the Ukrainian School Board of Montreal whose president is Lesia Prystupa-Shwec. The Board represents two Ukrainian schools, the Met. Andij Sheptytsky Saturday School with Irena Pawliw, its school director, and the Met. Illarion Saturday School with school director Dobrodijka Liudmylla Popowych. They have a total of 107 students attending classes. A report was also given by Ivan Prokaziuk for the Ukrainian Mutual Aid Society in Montreal informing delegates about the work their volunteers do to help Ukrainians in need.

Chairing the UCC AGM was Yaroslav Czolij. UCC Montreal encompasses thirty-four various Ukrainian organizations in Montreal and has representation from Northern Quebec area on its board. Montreal is represented on UCC National's board of directors, along with representatives from other parts of Canada.

The president's annual report may be read on the UCC Montreal web site at uccmontreal.org. President elect Zorianna Hrycenko-Luhova thanked her executive for their support and for the many hours of voluntary time they devote to community work and thanked those that help to ensure UCC Montreal's ongoing work, including Caisse Populaire Desjardins Ukrainienne de Montréal.

Upcoming fall events will include the annual Holodomor commemoration in November and a round table seminar on the past, present and future of the Ukrainian community in Quebec. UCC Montreal can be contacted at 514 593-1000.

PHOTO – SERHIY KOSTYUK

Sarich meets community representatives

On Oct. 24, Janice Sarich, MLA for Edmonton-Decore and recently re-appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education, invited eight representatives of Ukrainian community organizations in Edmonton to the opening of the 2011 fall sitting of the 27th Legislature, and introduced them to the Members. Picture Above: Back Row Left to Right: Roger Pullishy (Friends of the Ukrainian Village Society), Dr. Yuri Kotovych (Plast), Steve Romaniuk (Ukrainian Seniors Club of Marko Boyeslaw), Petro Dackiw (League of Ukrainian Canadians),Serhiy Kostyuk (UCC-Alberta Provincial Council). Front Row, Left to Right: Motria Dackiw (League of Ukrainian Canadian Women), Janice Sarich, Luba Feduschak (UCC-Edmonton), Maria Romaniuk (League of Ukrainian Canadian Women). At the same time MLA Sarich acknowledged the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence.

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Lest we forget on this Remembrance Day.

Janice Sarich, MLA
EDMONTON-DECORE
Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Education
P: 780.414.1328
F: 780.414.1330
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Загальні збори едмонтонської станиці Пласту

(р.п.)—В суботу 22 жовтня 2011 р. о 2-ій годині в домівці Пласту відбулися загальні збори едмонтонської станиці. Оскільки звіти діловодів були розтиражовані й роздані заздалегідь, у більшості випадків їх не треба було зачитувати й звітодавці обмежувалися тільки додатками до них.

Старшину станиці переобрано в такому складі: Станична рада: Орися Олійник, Ярема Шулякевич і Дарця Васараб-Ролланд; Станична – Анна Сливинська, заступник станичної й представник до місцевого відділу Конгресу Українців Канаду – Юрій Котович, писар і референт преси – Андрій Горняткевич, скарбник – Павло Грох, помічник скарбника – Рута Лисак-Мартинкова, господар – Зенон Мартинків, бібліотекар і архівіст – Надя Цинцар, реєстратор – Ліда Радьо, координатор балів (годин добровільної праці) – Христя Тетеренко, крамничка – Оксана Максимович.

Провід виховного сектору не вибирається на загальних зборах і ним керують: гніздові (новацтво, діти від 6 до 11 рр.) – Оксана Кравець і Галина Гложик, зв'язкова (юначки від 12 до 18 рр.) – Тереня Ільків, зв'язковий (юнаки від 12 до 18 рр.) – Ярослав Петрів, осередковий старшого пластунства (19 до 30 рр.) – Марко Тимчак, осередковий сеньйорату – Маркіян Лазурко, голова Пластприяту (батьки) – Надя Кушка.

Після перевибору станична Анна Сливинська подякувала за подальшу довіру станиці й намітила віхи праці в найближчому році, коли станиця відмічатиме сторіччя Пласту бенкетом із забавою, святом весни й участю в Ювілейній міжкрайовій пластовій зустрічі влітку в колисці Пласту – у Львові.

Львівський студент змусив світ заговорити про Голодомор

Галина Терещук, *Радіо Свобода*

У Львові вшанування роковин Голодомору в Україні 1932-1933 років розпочали акцією, присвяченою пам'яті оунівця Миколи Лемика, який змусив світ заговорити про штучний голод в Україні. Тодішній 19-річний студент Львівського університету, на знак протесту проти голоду в Україні, вбив у Львові радянського дипломата та емісара спецслужб.

Невелика група львів'ян зібралась у неділю біля будинку, в якому колись розташовувалося радянське консульство. Саме тут 22 жовтня 1933 року студент Львівського університету, оунівець Микола Лемик застрелив радянського дипломата та емісара спецслужб Алєксея Майлова, виконавши наказ ОУН. Це був протест молодої людини проти штучного голоду у Великій Україні. Студентові вдалося привернути увагу закордонних ЗМІ до мільйонів невинних жертв Голодомору.

Далекий родич Миколи Лемика Ярослав Лемик зауважив, що ОУН для здійснення операції обрала саме Миколу.

«ОУН для операції потрібно було підібрати інтелігентного, розумного чоловіка, щоб він здався поліції, поводився мудро на суді. Бо, звісно, було зрозуміло, що вироком буде смертна кара. Потім його змінили на довічне ув'язнення з огляду на молодий вік студента», – розповів Ярослав Лемик.

На початку Другої світової війни, восени 1939 року, Миколу Лемика було звільнено і він очолив східну похідну групу ОУН. Та 70 років тому, у жовтні 1941 року, його арештували гестапівці і розстріляли у Миргороді, на Полтавщині. Донині невідоме місце вічного спочинку Миколи Лемик і день його смерті. За словами Ярослава Лемика, можливо, у радянських та німецьких архівах можна було б знайти правду про загибель оунівця.

Однак ще до вчинку українського націоналіста, Українська Греко-Католицька церква інформувала світ про штучний голод у Великій Україні. Згідно архівних документів, українські емігранти Німеччини, Чехії, Франції, Канади на поминальних службах молились за жертв Голодомору.

У грудні 1932 року першими про голод в Україні митрополита Андрея Шептицького поінформувало Закордонне бюро Української радикально-демократичної партії у Празі. Митрополит одразу зреагував листом, створив бюро, яке збирало матеріали та дані про голод, щоб інформувати міжнародну спільноту про цю жахливу трагедію. У Галичині створили комітет допомоги голодуючим, але усі продукти, які збирали люди, радянська влада конфісковувала за Збручем.

У липні 1933 року Андрей Шептицький написав Пастирське послання «Україна в передсмертних судорогах», інформуючи світ і Ватикан, що українці вмирають голодною смертю.

У звіті папського посланця, який влітку 1933 року відвідав Радянську Україну, села, де голодували люди, мовиться, що ситуація в Україні дуже складна, що з приходом зими від голоду може померти 12 мільйонів людей.

29 жовтня 1933 року в Галичині був оголошений день національної жалоби і протесту. У Святоюрському Соборі відбулось Богослужіння, на якому молились за невинно убієнних українців. Але польська влада після вбивства українським націоналістом Миколою Лемиком радянського дипломата заборонила масові заходи, встановила цензуру у пресі, щоб уникнути ускладнень у відносинах з СРСР. Про це свідчать численні матеріали Львівського обласного архіву.

«Марш УПА» в Києві

«Марш УПА»: за Бандеру, проти влади і продажу землі

Євген Солонина, *Радіо Свобода*

Понад 8 тисяч прихильників об'єднань «Свобода» та УНА-УНСО пройшли центром Києва 14 жовтня, їх супроводжували близько тисячі правоохоронців. Так виглядав «Марш УПА» – щорічна урочиста хода, яку проводять українські праві сили до свята Покрови. Головні вимоги учасників ходи – відставка уряду та повернення звань героїв Степану Бандері та Роману Шухевичу. Тим часом Вищий адмінсуд України заборонив переглядати справу по Бандері й Шухевичу.

Як і раніше, учасники маршу збиралися в парку Шевченка біля пам'ятника Кобзарю. Однак цього разу, окрім прапорів таких організацій, як «Свобода» та УНА-УНСО, там було чимало символіки партії «Батьківщина». Представники БЮТ виступали і на віче, з якого почалася хода.

Серед іншого, учасники віча говорили не лише про статус вояків та лідерів ОУН-УПА. Зокрема, очільник ВО «Свобода» Олег Тягнибок заявив про необхідність вирішення соціальних проблем простих українців, про неприпустимість торгівлі сільськогосподарськими землями та про усунення від влади Януковича з його оточенням.

«Що говорила УПА? Яку державу треба будувати? Без злиднів та олігархів. Чому ми бідні? Не тому, що наша держава якась злиденна, а через те, що в ній бракує справедливості. Як національної, так і соціальної справедливості,» – підсумував віче Тягнибок.

Віче тривало більше години. Опів на шосту вечора його учасники вирушили ходою по вулиці Володимирській у бік Михайлівської площі. Правоохоронці нарахували дві з половиною тисячі учасників ходи, однак інші підрахунки свідчать, що до неї долучилося більше восьми тисяч осіб. Колона зайняла половину проїжджої частини вулиці і розтяглася більш ніж на півтора кілометра.

В обід на Бесарабській площі біля пам'ятника Леніну зібралося півсотні прихильників компартії та «Союзу радянських офіцерів». За їхніми словами, вони зібралися, щоб дати відсіч бандерівцям, і не виключали, що підуть на сутички з «Маршем УПА».

«Нас мало, але ми радянські, тверді люди. Ми щороку з ними зустрічаємося і перемагаємо. Дамо відсіч по-сталінськи, як давали Гітлеру», – сказав представник «Союзу радянських офіцерів».

Однак сутичок ні з представниками лівих сил, ні з міліцією не було, на відміну від недавньої святкової ходи опозиції до Дня Незалежності, коли її зупинив «Беркут». Хоча сьогодні дехто з учасників маршу вступав у суперечки із правоохоронцями, і всі вони скандували лозунги, спрямовані проти чинної влади та Президента Віктора Януковича.

Щоправда, двоє невідомих двічі розгортали перед ходою плакат із комуністичною символікою та образами на адресу УПА. Але правоохоронці миттєво блокували їх і відводили від учасників ходи, по інший бік кордонів міліції.

Вищий адміністративний суд заборонив переглядати справи про статус Степана Бандери та Романа Шухевича. І залишив у силі рішення попередніх судів, які позбавили цих двох українських діячів звання героїв, на підставі того, що вони нібито не були громадянами України. Отже, в межах України не залишилося юридичних механізмів для поновлення цього судового процесу, вважають правники. Адже заборона стосується і Верховного Суду.

Син головнокомандувача УПА Юрій Шухевич не полишає боротьби. Він заявив про намір подати скаргу до Європейського суду з прав людини, щоб той скасував рішення Вищого адміністративного суду. Однак він каже, що підготовка нового позову займе певний час.

Я пішов боротись, бо не хотів бути рабом – упівець Мирослав Симчич

Галина Терещук, *Радіо Свобода*

На Івано-Франківщині, у Коломиї, мешкає 88-річний сотенний УПА Мирослав Симчич, який добре пам'ятає минулі роки. За героїзм і відданість чоловікові встановили прижиттєвий пам'ятник.

Це дуже скромний чоловік, із почуттям гумору та світлим розумом. Він не уявляє іншим своє життя і ні за чим не жалкує.

«Абсолютно ні за чим не шкодую. Хіба лиш за тим, що зробив замало для України. Я пішов боротись, бо скільки можна було бути рабами. Наша боротьба ніколи не припинялась. Я тільки продовжив те, що наші попередники почали», – зазначає Симчич.

Із 1943-го до 1948 року він воював в УПА і взяв участь у майже півсотні боях. Усі були успішними. Але найбільше запам'ятався чоловікові бій у Космачі у січні 1945 року, коли він разом зі своєю сотнею розгромив полк і каральну дивізію НКВД. Тоді Мирославові Симчичу було 22 роки.

«Енкаведисти та їхня каральна дивізія вивозили кримських татар, чеченців, інгушів і після того, як вони упоралися з людьми, їх послали знищити упівців у Космачі. Бо то було місце нашою випадковою базою, а більшовики називали Космач бандерівською столицею. Я був поранений, але і близько не показав цього під час бою. Лиш потім хлопці побачили мою рану», – розповів ветеран УПА.

Взимку 1948 року Мирослава Симчича арештували. Понад 32 роки він провів у тюрмах і концтаборах у різних куточках Радянського Союзу. Упівця утримували у найжорстокіших умовах. Із неволі йому разом із шістдесятниками Євгеном Сверстюком, Іваном Світличним, Ігорем Калинцем, Валерієм Марченком вдалося переслати за кордон лист у німецьке видання «Шпігель». І світ тоді дізнався про жахіття, що коїлись у радянських таборах. До 1968 року КДБ не знало, хто саме знищив понад 400 енкаведистів у Космачі. Однак зрадник назвав ім'я Мирослава Симчича. Справу проти нього було поновлено. Донині він не реабілітований.

Ukrainian Canadian Servicemen's Association (UCSA), London, 1944

Winnipeg conference to examine Ukrainians in Canada during WWII

(CIUS)—The Second World War marked a turning point in the history of Ukrainians in Canada. The conflict simultaneously heightened tensions within the Ukrainian community while uniting fractious and formerly hostile organizations in common cause with Canada's war effort. The war further helped to change mainstream perceptions of Ukrainians as an undesirable "foreign" element in Canadian society that was troublesome to assimilate, and made sudden and unlikely Allies of the Western democracies and the Soviet Union as the European conflict widened with the Nazi invasion of the USSR.

The history of Ukrainians in Canada during the Second World War remains understudied in comparison to earlier periods (the pioneer era is quite well documented and a major monograph on the interwar years from the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies will appear in 2012), notwithstanding the publication of ground-breaking manuscripts on this era by Thomas Prymak and Bohdan Kordan. As such, certain questions about this time remain not only unanswered, but in some cases not even posed.

To start addressing some of these issues, the CIUS Kule Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies and the Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies (University of Manitoba), in partnership with the Ukrainian Cultural and Education Centre "Oseredok" are sponsoring the "Becoming Canadian: Ukrainian Canadians and the Second World War" conference, to be held in Winnipeg on 11–12 November.

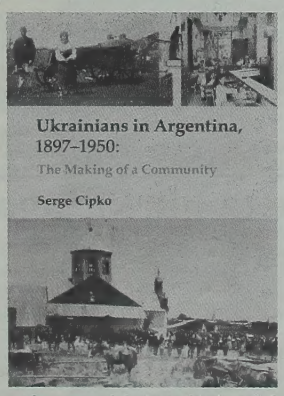
Eleven papers related to the theme of the event are scheduled to be presented. The speakers all hail from Canada, coming from as far west as Edmonton and as far east as Ottawa. Among the topics to be covered will be Ukrainian Canadians on the eve of the Second World War (with a specific note regarding reactions to the Carpatho-Ukraine crisis in 1938–39); Ukrainians in the Canadian armed forces during the conflict (including an examination of the activities of Ukrainian-Canadian chaplains); Ukrainian Canadians on the home front; and others. The conference will also include a screening of a vintage film illustrating the Hollywood view of the war in Ukraine. As well, the proceedings, which start on Remembrance Day, will include a special commemoration of Canada's war veterans.

The "Becoming Canadian" conference will take place at the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre (Oseredok) in Winnipeg, and be open to the public, with a $40 registration fee for both days and $25 for a single day. The amounts cover the cost of lunch and coffee breaks on the two days, as well as Friday night's film screening, which will be open only to registered participants. Students can attend for free, pending a display of their school identification. Pre-registration before 7 November is required for attendance. This can be done by phoning Oseredok at (204) 942-0218. For further information phone the CUCS at (204) 474-8907. To access the conference programme go to <www.ualberta.ca/CIUS/Becoming_Canadian.pdf>.

New book on Ukrainians in Argentina

(CIUS)—Argentina, the eighth-largest country in the world, has relied heavily on immigration to boost its population. In 1914 some 30 percent of the Argentine population was classified as foreign-born. Between the 1890s and 1940s tens of thousands of settlers from Ukraine made their way to that Southern Hemisphere republic. Indeed, Ukrainians constituted the largest of the Slavic groups to immigrate to Argentina and formed significant communities in the provinces of Misiones, Chaco, Mendoza, and Buenos Aires.

Ukrainians in Argentina, 1897–1950: The Making of a Community recounts the immigrant contribution to Ukrainian cultural, political, religious, and other organizations in Argentina. The book is based on research conducted in the archives of both Ukraine and Argentina; it also draws on the immigrant press. The chapters are arranged chronologically, the first dealing with the initial, pre-1914 wave of Ukrainian



settlement and the last with the third wave that came after World War II. Two middle chapters are case studies of two organizations founded in the interwar period. The author's examination of ties developed with Ukrainians in other countries also provides insights into the nature and activity of organizations created in neighbouring Paraguay and Uruguay.

The author of this study, Serge Cipko, is coordinator of the Ukrainian Diaspora Studies Initiative at CIUS. He is the author of *St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Edmonton: A History (1902–2002)* and co-author (with Glenna Roberts) of *One-Way Ticket: The Soviet Return-to-the-Homeland Campaign, 1955–1960*. He is also co-editor (with Natalie Kononenko) of *Champions of Philanthropy: Peter and Doris Kule and Their Endowments*.

Ukrainians in Argentina is available in paperback ($29.95) and hardcover ($59.95) (plus taxes and shipping; outside Canada, prices are in U.S. dollars). Orders can be placed via the secure on-line ordering system of CIUS Press at www.ciuspress.com or by contacting CIUS Press, 430 Pembina Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2H8; tel.: (780) 492-2973; fax: (780) 492-4967; e-mail: cius@ualberta.ca.

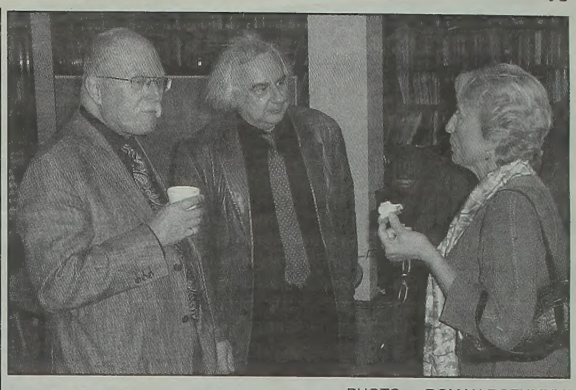


PHOTO — ROMAN ROZUMNYJ

Myroslav Petriw, President UCC Vancouver (left) with filmmaker Yurij Luhovy and Daria McMorran at Vancouver Premiere.

Genocide Revealed premieres in Vancouver

(MmlInc)—The feature documentary *Genocide Revealed* was screened to students at the Vancouver Film School (VFS), a leading center for training and higher learning in all areas related to media and entertainment production in Canada, on September 22. The VFS has 13 different programs related to the entertainment arts including film production, with a limited yearly student enrolment.

Present at the VHS screening was producer-director of *Genocide Revealed*, Yurij Luhovy who answered questions about the process of putting together a film, the difficulty of making an independent production and how one goes about to begin to search for and obtain the rights to use documents, photos and archival film footage in a film. Also speaking at the screening was his daughter, a VFS student, Adriana Luhovy, who was the main cameraperson on *Genocide Revealed*. She spoke of how difficult it was for her to listen to the testimonies of survivors and how she tried to cope with filming them during very sensitive, traumatic moments when the survivors opened up and were talking for the first time about what they and their family endured during the Stalinist period. She was torn between keeping this a very private, non-obtrusive moment, or recording it, thereby giving their stories life and exposure, so others would finally understand what happened to them during the famine-genocide of 1932-1933. This was the first time VFS screened a film on a Ukrainian topic.

Three days later, *Genocide Revealed* was later premiered in Vancouver to the Ukrainian community organized by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Vancouver branch, the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada and the Ukrainian Studies Foundation of BC.

Genocide Revealed, a recent winner of 12 international awards, will be premiered in various centers including New York City at the Ukrainian Institute of America on November 4; in Albany at the Ukrainian American Citizens' Club on November 5; in Ottawa at the Mayfair Theatre on November 17; in Montreal by the McGill Ukrainian Students' Association (MUSA) on McGill campus in November (date to be confirmed); in Toronto at Innis College University of Toronto on November 29.

For a list of upcoming screenings visit www.yluhovy.com. Organizations may contact tel. 514 481 5871 or e-mail : mmlinc@ hotmail.com, to arrange a screening of *Genocide Revealed* which is narrated by actor Graham Greene or *Okradena Zemlya* (the Ukrainian version), narrated by actor Bohdan Beniuk.

A shorter, educational version of *Genocide Revealed* for schools and universities is in production.

Toxic spill causes concern

(RFE/RL)—A traffic accident in western Ukraine has resulted in a spill of a highly toxic fluid, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reports.

Lviv Oblast Council Deputy Iryna Sekh told RFE/RL that a truck with several barrels of the toxic chemical mononitrochlorbenzol (MNCB) hit a pole in the village of Didyliv and overturned late on Oct. 13.

One of the barrels burst open. The driver died at the scene.

Sekh said local authorities are considering evacuating the village because MNCB is toxic and may pose a health hazard.

But representatives of the Lviv Oblast's Emergency Situations Department told RFE/RL that the situation is under control and there is no need for an evacuation.

The truckload of MNCB was headed for Poland. Local authorities say the customs service has taken charge of delivering the remaining barrels.

Yanukovych invites Ukrainians in Brazil to come back

(Interfax-Ukraine)—Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych has invited Ukrainians now living in Brazil to return to Ukraine.

As reported by an Interfax-Ukraine correspondent, during a meeting with the Ukrainian diaspora in Sao Paulo on Oct. 24, the Ukrainian president said that he was always happy to meet with the Ukrainian diaspora.

"And it would be good news for me to hear that someone had returned. Return to Ukraine, it's interesting to live there," he said.

The Ukrainian president told the diaspora about reforms in Ukraine that are aimed at improving Ukrainians' life.

Ukrainian migration to Brazil started 120 years ago.

On January 19, 2010 the president of Brazil signed a law, under which August 24 became an official holiday — national day of the Ukrainian community.

About 500,000 ethnic Ukrainians live in Brazil, about 50% of them live in Parana. The population of Brazil is about 192 million people.

Shakhtar and Zenit produce four-goal draw

(UEFA)—FC Shakhtar Donetsk are still looking for their first victory in UEFA Champions League Group G after they were held to a 2-2 draw by FC Zenit St Petersburg, ct. 19.

Both sides had numerous chances in what was a hugely entertaining game at a packed Donbas Arena, but it is the visitors who will perhaps be happier with a draw which keeps them in second spot, a point behind APOEL FC. Zenit twice came from behind, with excellent goals from Roman Shirokov and Viktor Fayzulin cancelling out strikes by Willian and Luiz Adriano.

The game started at express pace as both teams created a flurry of early openings, Douglas Costa setting the tone with a free-kick that sailed narrowly past Vyacheslav Malafeev's right-hand post. Shirokov had gone close for the visitors on a couple of occasions but on ten minutes the Russian international was given the perfect opportunity to put Zenit in front from the penalty spot. However, the midfielder's weak shot was well saved low down to his right by Olexandr Rybka, much to the delight of the sell-out crowd.

Zenit were made to pay after quarter of an hour. Willian picked the ball up wide on the left and with the Zenit defence standing off, the 23-year-old hit a superb right-footed shot which sailed into the top right-hand corner via an outstretched glove of Malafeev.

Luciano Spalletti's men continued to press in search of an equaliser and they were rewarded on 33 minutes. Aleksandr Bukharov's excellent pass with the outside of his right foot found Shirokov and the Zenit midfielder made amends for his penalty failure, chesting the ball past Rybka and scoring from an acute angle. The teams looked like they would be heading into the break level, but in added time Luiz Adriano restored Shakhtar's lead with a shot on the turn.

The second half continued at a similar tempo, with Jadson having a couple of chances to extend Shakhtar's lead. However, he failed to take them and Zenit drew level on the hour. Fayzulin took advantage of Olexandr Chyzhov's untimely slip and with the goalkeeper well off his line, the midfielder restored parity with a superb chip.

Shirokov had a late chance to win the game for the Russian league leaders, but he was to be denied by a brilliant last-ditch block by Olexandr Kucher as both teams had to settle for a point, leaving Shakhtar still two adrift of second-placed Zenit. They meet again in Russia on Nov. 1.

Ruslana dedicates a song to EURO 2012

(UNIAN)—Pop singer Ruslana has dedicated a song to the 2012 UEFA European Football Championship which is going to take place in Ukraine and Poland. The winner of the Eurovision Song Contest 2004 wants to unite all the spectators in a mass show at the opening ceremony of the new stadium of Lviv (one of the host cities of the 2012 EURO).

The 2012 UEFA European Football Championship will take place in Poland and Ukraine between June 8 and July 1. Ruslana will welcome the event in her home country with a brand new song called Davay hray (Let's play). The new song will be presented during the opening ceremony of a new stadium in Lviv.

"This song is about future victory! This is a mass, stadium, sing-and-dance chant-song, made easy for everybody on stands to sing along! I want to offer a new Ukrainian powerful chant-song for sport games fans. I created a mass show for stands meant for any game, combat or match. The idea is to unite as many people as possible in single rhythm, sound, moves and tune! This is a very characteristic of the Ukrainians to sing and dance together!", says Ruslana.

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Last-gasp Garmash earns Dynamo victory

Sports

Denys Garmash scored in the third minute of added time, finally finding a way past goalkeeper Cenk Gönen.

(UEFA)—FC Dynamo Kyiv climbed to second in Group E after Denys Garmash's added-time goal earned a 1-0 win against Beşiktaş JK, Oct. 20.

Dynamo dominated throughout in the Ukrainian capital but, despite wave after wave of attack, their win was only secured in the last few seconds. With the match in the third minute of added time, Denys Garmash seized his opportunity and volleyed a corner past the otherwise impeccable Cenk Gönen.

Having been held to two draws in their first two matches, Dynamo badly needed victory in front of their own fans. They started purposefully as they set about attaining it too, and Ideye Brown just failed to capitalise on a pair of mistakes by the visiting defence.

Artem Milevskiy, the main architect of Dynamo's forward play in the opening half, twice provided team-mates with clear scoring opportunities during the first 20 minutes, but Oleh Gusev narrowly missed his and Andriy Yarmolenko curled a shot against the far post.

The Turkish outfit were relying on fast, counterattacking football, and that tactic earned Edu a great chance midway through the first half. With just Olexandr Shovkovskiy to beat in the Dynamo goal, the Brazilian forward nonetheless lost the duel as a timely intervention by the 36-year-old Ukraine goalkeeper outside the area rescued his side.

The action soon switched to the other end and the impressive Yarmolenko missed another opportunity in the closing minutes of the first period, his attempt to lob Cenk Gönen coaxing a reaction of great agility from the Turkish keeper.

Despite continuous Dynamo attacks in the second half, chances were shared equally. Beşiktaş's Fabian Ernst fired the ball over from a promising position and Dynamo's Brown headed wide from close range following Yarmolenko's cross. Another centre from Dynamo's promising winger was met by an Andriy Shevchenko header, but once again Cenk Gönen proved equal to it.

There was still time for Dynamo to force a late corner, however, and up popped Garmash to seal victory.

Ten-man Metalist make light work of Malmö

Cleiton Xavier (R) and Fininho celebrate their success in Sweden

(UEFA)—FC Metalist Kharkiv made light of Jonathan Cristaldo's first-half dismissal to win in comprehensive style at Malmö FF and climb to the Group G summit, while all but ending the hosts' UEFA Europa League qualification hopes, Oct. 20.

Jiloan Hamad's delicate finish opened the scoring for Malmö after 22 minutes, but their lead lasted just ten minutes before Cristaldo levelled. The Argentinian goalscorer was red-carded shortly afterwards, but, despite their numerical disadvantage, the Ukrainian challengers went ahead via Fininho's drive before half-time. Edmar then guided in a header to make it three after the interval and Marko Dević rounded the win off via a delightful finish.

Without a point at the foot of Group G, Malmö needed victory to maintain their slim qualification hopes and they started with purpose. Miljan Mutavdžić's low drive flew just wide, and the danger signs were not heeded by Metalist. As a result, Mathias Ranégie was able to pick out Hamad's run behind the defence and the 20-year-old lobbed superbly over Oleksandr Goryainov.

The visitors, who have not lost all season in either domestic or European competition, immediately sparked into life. José Ernesto Sosa lofted a cross to the back post, where Cristaldo generated remarkable power on his header to force the ball into the top corner.

The Metalist momentum looked to have been stopped in its tracks when the 22-year-old goalscorer was then shown a straight red card following an incident with Pontus Jansson, but the Ukrainian side kept up their free-flowing play and were rewarded on the stroke of half-time when right-back Cristian Villagra pulled a cross back across goal for Fininho to blast into the top corner.

The evening only got worse for Malmö as Edmar lost his marker from Cleiton Xavier's corner shortly after the break to flick in the third. Dević then stole the ball from Jansson, sold Daniel Andersson a dummy and chipped in beautifully to seal the outcome.

Vorskla refuse to buckle against Standard

(UEFA)—R. Standard de Liège were unable to get any change out of a meek-looking FC Vorskla Poltava, with a goalless draw coming as a relief for the visitors in UEFA Europa League Group B, Oct. 20.

José Riga's Standard were beaten 5-0 in the league at RSC Anderlecht at the weekend, and still looked a little shaken as they returned to European action. They had the better chances, with Gohi Bi Cyriac drawing a splendid save from the busy Serhiy Dolganskiy in the first half, but for all of their dominance, they never did enough to truly rattle a rickety Vorskla defence.

While attacking midfielder Roman Bezus once more demonstrated the mosquito-like ability to irk defenders which sent him into this game as the group stage's most fouled player, Mykola Pavlov's men barely laid a glove on Standard, and Cyriac's volley on the half-hour drew a fittingly spectacular save from Dolganskiy and hinted at further excitement to come.

Momentum soon dissipated, though Dolganskiy did well to charge down a Luis Manuel Seijas shot from a narrowing angle. Bezus did not emerge for Vorskla after the interval, Standard captain Jelle Van Damme was taken off soon afterwards, and neither side looked to have much appetite for the game after that, though the home side had plenty of chances.

Armend Dallku cleared off the line after Yoni Buyens beat Dolganskiy to a ball from the right, but a meek Seijas trundle at one end and an Ivan Kryvosheyenko effort charged down at the other were more representative of a stop-start encounter. Dolganskiy fielded a deflected Kanu effort, Nacho González planted a header wide, Cyriac had an effort forced off target; Vorskla clung on grimly, but need to show in attack when these sides meet again in Ukraine on matchday four.

Left to Right: Eugene Czolij, Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) President; Jerry Pryshlak, Ukrainian Credit Union Board Secretary; Natalie Witiuk, UCU Board of Directors; Taras Pidzamecky, CEO of UCU; Ihor Laszok, Chair of World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives

UWC President participates in Credit Union Council AGM

(UWC)—On Oct. 15 Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) President Eugene Czolij participated in the Annual General Meeting of the Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions of Canada. The AGM, attended by 26 delegates representing six credit unions from Toronto, Winnipeg and Saskatoon, was held at the Ukrainian National Federation of Canada centre in Toronto.

Czolij extended greetings to the delegates, wishing the Council and its president, Olya Sheweli, continued success in future endeavours. The UWC President also informed participants about the work of the UWC in developing Ukrainian community life in the diaspora and defending the human and national rights of Ukrainians in Ukraine and beyond its borders. He also drew attention to the most recent troubling events in Ukraine.

Czolij expressed gratitude to Ukrainian credit unions for their financial support of the UWC and presented UWC President's Club certificates "*recognizing a significant financial contribution in support of UWC's work*" to Buduchnist Credit Union and Ukrainian Credit Union, both headquartered in Toronto. He also noted the contribution of the Caisse Populaire Desjardins Ukrainienne de Montréal which was previously awarded its certificate of recognition.

Also participating in the AGM was the President of the UWC World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives, Ihor Laszok, who greeted and congratulated the Council for its successes over the past year, and provided an update on Ukrainian credit unions around the world.

Natural gas talks with Russia face delay

(Ukrainian Journal)—Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said Oct. 25 it may take one month for his government to negotiate a new natural gas agreement with Russia that calls for lower gas prices.

The new time estimate is more cautious and comes less than a week after Azarov had said such deal may be reached within days and definitely before October 27.

"We count on having the agreement with Russia literally within a month," Azarov said in televised remarks while touring the Dnipropetrovsk region.

Ukraine has been unsuccessfully trying to re-negotiate the 10-year natural gas agreement with Russia for the past 18-months.

Tomenko attacks CIS free-trade deal

Business

(Ukrainian Journal)—A senior opposition lawmaker on Oct. 26 attacked the government for signing a free trade agreement with Russia and other CIS nations that he says contains too many trade restrictions.

Prime Minister Mykola Azarov surprised many by signing the agreement in St. Petersburg on Oct. 19 even though Ukraine had failed to persuade Russia to lift most of the restrictions.

Mykola Tomenko, a deputy speaker of Parliament and a senior member of Batkivshchyna, former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's opposition party, said the agreement was a waste of time.

"Actually, what the prime minister has signed has nothing to do with the free market because the free trade agreement must have no exclusions and restrictions," Tomenko said in an interview with Channel 5 television. "If we cannot sell to Russia our main commodities and cannot have normal relations in the natural gas sector, then such agreement is not needed."

There were fears raised in Ukraine by opposition figures, including by former President Viktor Yushchenko, that the agreement with Russia and other CIS nations may be signalling a change in the government's foreign policy away from seeking closer cooperation with the European Union.

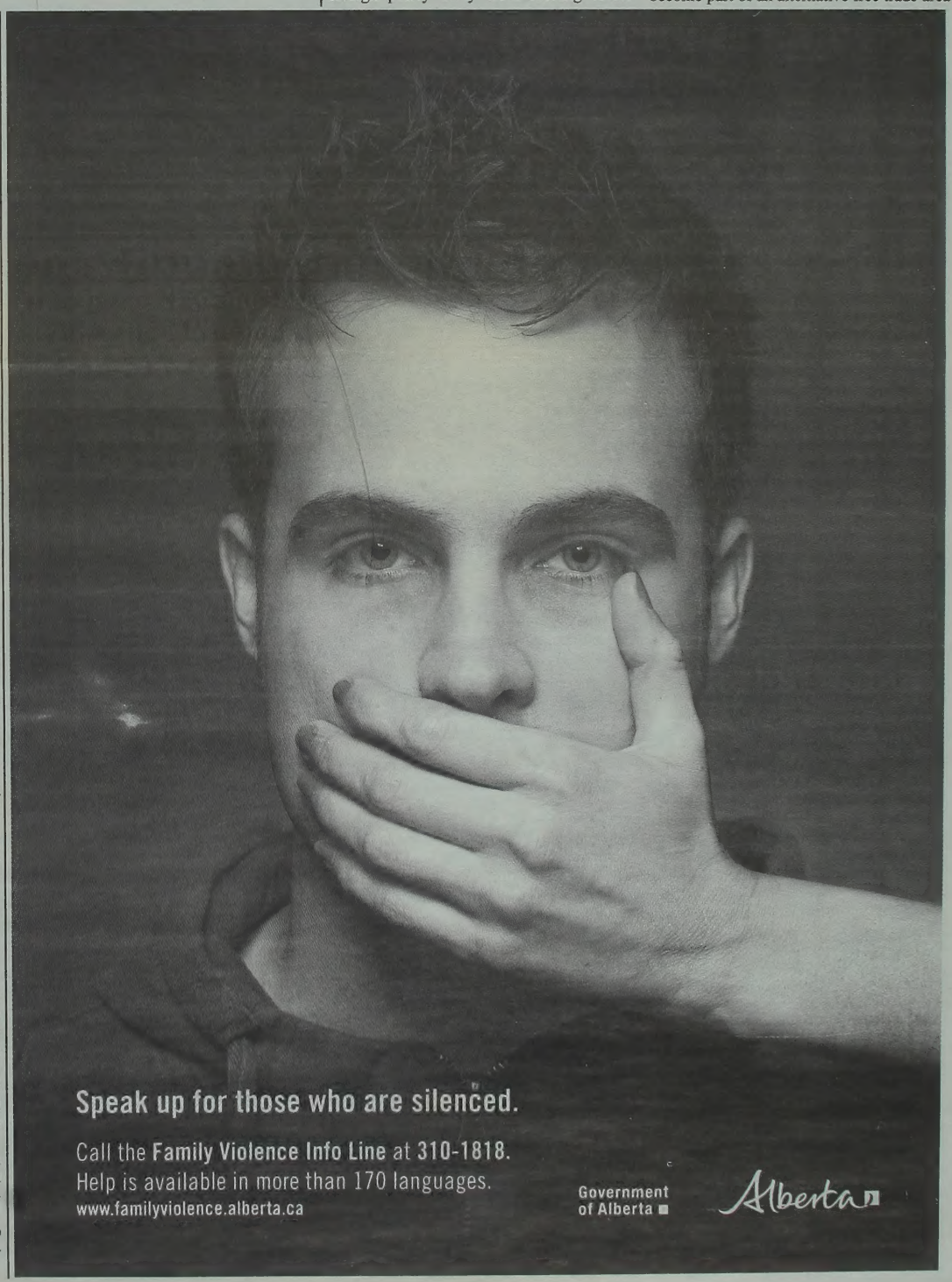
Ukraine has been negotiating a free trade deal with the EU for at least four years now and was expected to sign the deal before the end of the year.

However, responding to growing pressure from the Ukrainian authorities on opposition figures EU officials on Oct. 18 postponed a meeting with Yanukovych, angering the Ukrainian president.

This prompted speculations that Ukraine has decided to accelerate the talks with Russia in response to criticism from the EU, even as the expense of signing the agreement that contains trade restrictions.

Yanukovych said Oct. 22 the free trade agreement with Russia was not aimed against its European integration, adding the integration will continue.

Yushchenko, who pursued a pro-Western course while in office in 2005-2009, said the free trade agreement with Russia underscored a turnaround in the country's foreign policy away from seeking integration with Europe.Azarov on Oct. 20 praised the agreement with Russia by suggesting Ukraine has become part of an alternative free trade area



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